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M. J. CANAVAN

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VOLUME I

NOTES FROM
THE PROPRIETORS' RECORDS
OF THE
TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE

M.J.Canavan.

Cambridge Proprietors' Records.

Page 79. Herbert Pelham at further side of Vine Brook, one house and 600 acres of land - Concord line north, John Bridge West. In 1643 he owned that.

Page 79. Rich. Champney. In Rockmeadow, the great meadow by the house. 11 acres and a half, more or less. Edw. Goffe South, John Bridge North, Watertown line West, Common east.

Another piece of Rock Meadow, 6 acres - Edw. Goffe West, Common N. & S., highway to Concord east.

Note In Alewife meadow, 7 acres, John Betts, N. E. Highway to Concord South, Common West and N.W.

Edw. Goffe, 600 acres by Vine Brook. Herb. Pelham, Esq. and John Bridge North.

In Rockmeadow, 14 acres. Rich. Champney North, Watertown line West, and 11 acres more.

88. John Bridge 10 acres and 15 acres in Rock meadow. 7 1/2 acres in Alewife meadow, Edw. Collins West and Common N. & South.

88. Edw. Collins, alewife Meadows, 7 1/2 acres, Geo. Cooke West, John Bridge east, Concord Highway south, Common North.

92. Golden Moore, Alewife meadow, 7 1/2 acres, Andrew Beecher East, commons North, S. & W.

94. Edw. Winship, 2 acres in Alewife meadow, the common bound.

103. Rich. Park, Alewife meadow, 7 1/2 acres - John Betts east and Sam Shepard W. Common N. and S.

111. Thos. Danforth, 10 acres in Alewife meadow, John Betts West, Common N. S. and E.

1644. Rich. Jackson bought of John Bridge 6 acres in Alewife meadow abutting Eliz. Sherburn east. Mr. Geo. Cooke West. Wm. Wilcock N. and Common S.

Note: Alewife Meadows, where the brook was and the reservoir.

1645. Roger Shaw, 200 acres of upland abutting common ground beyond VIII mile limit towards Concord line N. W. and near S.W. side of Capt. Cooke's farm. (A bad description. Cooke would be S.E. of Shaw.)

P. 115. 1645. Thos. Danforth, 14 acres of upland adjoining Alewife meadow highway S. and N. as appears by grant book. 1644.

Rich. Champney, 3 acres of meadow and upland. Skirts his meadow at Alewife meadow. Abut Highway to Concord S.W. Richard Park northwest, Edw. Winship and commons N.E. Thos. Danforth S.E.

Note 1 P. 131. 1645. John Bridge, 2 acres plow land this side Vine Brook eastward near place where his stacks of hay did stand.

1645. Wm. Russell bought of Mr. Geo. Cooke 5 acres of meadow land in Alewife meadow. Abut Nicholas Wyeth S. and Mr. Henry Dunster N. Upland E. & W.

Note 2 1648. Mr. Henry Dunster bought of Mr. Geo. Cooke in Alewife Meadow, 10 acres more or less. Golden Moore S.W., Nicholas Wyeth S.E. Wm. Russell N.E. Upland north.

Edw. Winship bought of John Betts 20 acres of land in Alewife meadow. Thos. Danforth East, Richard Park W., his own land N. & South.

Note 3 P. 132. Francis Grissall bought of Geo. Cooke, 1646. 2 acres of land lying in Alewife meadow. Wm. Russell S.W., own land N. Common East.

1647. Wm. Towne bought of Fr. Grissall 2 acres of land in Alewife meadows, Mr. Henry Dunster W. & N. Commons east.

1648. Wm. Wilcocks, 30 acres, highway to Capt. Cooke's farm N.E., Roger Shaw N. His own meadow W. and Mr. Henry Dunster E. Richard Jackson and Commons S.W.

Notes:
1. Portion of Bridge farm. Not the original farm, but added.
2. Was not this the Dunster land which Jonathan Harrington owned?
3. This was part of Cooke's land and down by the Dunster land.

1643. Edw. Parker at the Rocks, 72 acres, Highway to Concord N.

Note 1 Edw. Winship on the Rocks, 240 acres, Edw. Park East, Commons W., Robert Holmes N.W.

Note 2 Robt. Holmes 104 acres on the Rocks. Edw. Winship east, Golden Moore N. and Commons W.

Note 3 Golden Moore 40 acres at Rocks, Robert Holmes S.W. Richard Jackson N. Meadows East and Commons elsewhere.

Note 4 At Rocks, Jos. Fessenden, 40 acres;Bears Swamp N. and E. Edw.Goffe West.

Note 5 At Rocks, Richard Jackson, 81 acres, compassing the meadow farm granted him by the Towne. Commons surrounding the same.

Note 6 1664. Laid out to John Adams farm of 117 acres by him purchased of Golden Moore and is situate on waste lands in 7th mile and bounded N.E. by Widow Russell's farm that was bought of Richard Jackson. On east by Alewife meadows, on South Joseph Holmes. On west by Common land. On ye Nor West Mr. Pelham's farm with allowance for the great highway that leads to Concord surveyed by David Fiske at the appointment of Lt. Edw. Winship by order of ye town and allowance for the highway that leads to Matthew Bridge farm. (Independence Avenue to Tower's driveway.

Notes: 1. Winship, 240 acres E. Lexington.

2. Robt. Holmes 104 at the Rocks on the Main Road East Lexington.

3. Golden Moore's farm reached up to Munroe's Station.

4. Fessenden, East Village.

5. Jackson - Woburn St.

6. Included Mason Hollow, Nunn estate, Robert Harrington or P. P. Pierce, and reached down to Independence Avenue.

P. 16. 1681. Return by Sam. Stone, David Fiske and Matthew Bridge concerning the bounds of a part of the Farms that formerly was Roger Shaw's. We, whose names are hereunto written, being appointed by the selectmen as a Committee in the town behalf to lay out to the proprietors that Meadow formerly granted to Roger Shaw according to his grant. It having never been done before by any Committee in the town's behalf we have according to the grant laid to them that meadow being one entire meadow containing by estimation fower score acres which is a meadow not far from Concord bounds and Joineth the north end of a great swamp which is head of a part of Shawshin River and this is by us marked Rounds that meadow where it is next the Common with this mark M with A marking oyrh on that side of many of the trees next the meadow the proprictors being with us and consenting to what we have done. And this is our return to the towne.

Note 1

Samuel Stone, Sen'r
David Fiske, Sen'r
Matthew Bridge, Sen'r

April 14/1682.
(Shaw's farm, Tophet Swamp)

1683. Matthew Bridge given 24 acres beyond 3 mile limit.

Pelham 66 acres.

Sam Cooper 7 acres. (Cooper had land John Munroe got at Spalding's.)

Francis Bowman, 20 acres.

Edward Angier 50 acres.

In 6th Squadron Wm. Munroe 10 acres

7th Squadron, Elder Jonas Clark, 30 acres.

8th Squadron, John Winter, 7 acres.

1693. Wm. Munroe having bought of the Common land ordered by the Proprietors to pay some town debt hath bought 3 acres and a half butted and bounded as North westerly to land belonging to said Wm. Munroe, the highway northerly, and east and south the land of Philip Russell.

Note 2

Notes: 1. Tophet Swamp N. part of Lexington reaching S.E. taking in Reed and Simonds places which came to them through John Poulter by Will.
2. Along or near Woburn St.

Another parcell bought by Wm. Munroe: 2 1/2 acres north of highway that leads to Philip Russell, easterly the land of Philip Russell. South to the Platt line. Westerly to meadow of said Wm. Munroe, N.W. on land of Phil Russell, and he is to pay for it 43.12s. all of which sd. Wm. Munroe hath payed unto Mr. John Hancock by order of the town, for being schoolmaster also in the town. (The road that led to Russell was the beginning of Maple St. and the lane back of Kennison hill.)

Note 1 P. 201. Philip Russell also having bought of the same parcel of land as follows: W. land of P. Russell, N.W. Wm. Munroe, E. Wm. Munroe, N.W. Wm. Munroe, Easterly highway. S. land of Wm. Munroe, in all 7 acres. P. Russell buys another parcel 4 3/4 acres: S. his own meadow, W. Wm. Munroe, N.E. highway, East Wm. and Jason Russell meadow.

Also, Philip bought another parcel east of the great slow (great

Note 2 Slough).

[illegible]. A small parcel of land between Wm. Munroe and Ph. Russell. Another parcel to P. Russell 2 3/4 acres, S.E. Mr. Dunster's meadow, S.W. John Dixon. Sold John Russell 5 1/2 acres common land lying near his dwelling house. His own land N. Nat. Hancock's meadow S. John Dixon's meadow East, John Dunster and Wm. Russell S. and Wm. and Jason Russell N. and pay L-1-19s. John Hastings, the schoolmaster.

Wm. and Jason Russell 3 acres of land: Mr. Shepard's meadow W., farm land North, highway to John Dixon S.E. and lying near and S.W. Philip Russell's farm.

Notes: 1. Woburn St. vicinity.
2. The Great Slough. Col. Geo. Cooke went to Civil War in England. John Fownel recovered a sum of him for education of his daughter and received 13 acres of Cooke's land which he sold to Dunster. It may be the Dunster land down by Reedy meadow, or that which came into hands of Jonathan Harrington.

1694. p. [illegible]. Sold unto Francis Bowman 2 parcels of land of some remnant of land not layd out unto particulars.

One parcel 20 acres, more or less, butting against the Road that
Note 1 goes from Concord Round to Mr. Bridge's Gate easterly. Easterly the land belonging to John Adams. Northerly the land of Francis Bowman and Mr. Bridge.

The other parcel 5 acres abutting on land belonging to house of Francis Bowman South, N.E. on land of Sam. Winship and land of Widow of Wm. Gleeson, N.W. on meadow of John Willington, for the same lands he was to pay £1[illegible].4s. (I should say between Pleasant and Middle St.)

P. 219. Where as we the subscribers were appointed to State and settle Country roads and other highways through a parcel of land platted by Ensign Fiske as appears on record Ap. 13, 1683. Pursuant thereunto we did before laying out of any of sd. land State and Settle ye Highways both public and private. And particularly as to ye Country roads we stated them to be in some places 8 rods and in some 4 and in some places 6 rods wide according as we found good or bad land and as to ye private ways to ye Farmes (before layd out) we proceeded according to ye aforesaid order and particularly
Note 2 we stated a way fro ye Country road from Mr. Pelham's five hundred acres thru Shaw's farm and so to ye land now called Churches farm, ye same being Two rods wide. Camb. Nov. 1, 1703.

Jno. Coram Jno. Leverett) J. Pac. David Fiske, Sen'r
Jno. Bond)) Jno. Watson.

Notes: 1. The road - Middle St.

2. Hancock St.

Standing on said Northerly side of the road. It is here to be understood yt said Trees Staid Round on both sides of ye Meeting house in Cambridge Farmes. Also ye land platted by Ensign Fiske aforesaid contained the land between Woburn, Concord and Mr. Pelham's five hundred acres. Aforesaid that being then called cv. head line.

Cambridge, Nov. 1, 1703. David Fiske, Sen.
Jno. Coram. John Leverett) Just.Peace. Sam. Stone, Sen.
Jonas Bond)

219. At a meeting of Selectmen Feb. 14, 1703. Whereas Mr. Samuel Sparhawke hath moved ye selectmen that he may have a highway layd out to his
Note meadow known by name of Dunback meadow, Said Selectmen have apptd Mr. Francis Bowman, Mr. Matthew Bridge and Mr. Benj. Wellington to consider of ye matter and if they see meet to lay out a highway to said meadow from ye end of a highway layed out toward sd. meadow as aprs. on record having date ye 26 Feb last past and to make return of their doings therein to said Selectmen on ye Second Monday in March next.

We whose names are underwritten were ordered a Committee to lay out a Highway of two rods wide for Mr. Samuel Sparhawke from ye end of a Highway formerly layed out as appears of Record leading toward a meadow called Dunback. Accordingly, on ye 10th of March, 1703/4 we did attend to ye work and layed out a highway on ye northwest side of ye meadow to ye upper end of sd. meadow beginning at Thos. Smith's land marked as followeth: a fence on ye lower side the way and so continuing till we come to a fence on ye upper side of ye Highway and so along till we come to two Black Oaks marked on ye lower side of ye way, again a Black Oak, a White Oak or a heap

Note: Way from Pleasant St. in to Dunback meadow. That was Wellington land. I presume it still holds its name. I think there are mounds in there which change color early.

of Stones on ye lower side of ye way and a Walnut on ye upper side and so along till we pitched

D. 21C. 1733. And whereas there is some differences with Mr. BenJ. Muzzy referring to some of sd. roads and particularly referring to ye Country road from Mr. Pelham's said 500 acres toward Concord, we Do Declare that (Pursuant to ye aforesaid order) at the same time we layd out sd. Country road to Concord line and a considerable way of it about eight rods wide from sd. five Hundred Acres towards Concord and Marked Sundrey trees on both sides Viz: Two white oaks on the southerly side of sd. road, ye one now standing in Jno. Munroe's fence and ye other standing about four or five feet within sd. fence and two trees on ye northerly side of said Road, Viz - one black oak now standing about one rod within said Muzzy's fence, the other a white oak standing on ye northerly side of sd. road. Viz - One black oak now standing about one rod within said Muzzy's fence, the othe a white oak

Note down two stakes on ye upper side of ye way, and 2 landing places for hay on ye lower side and so continuing till we came to two Black Oaks on ye lower side ye way and one on ye upper side all marked again we marked a Black oak on either side ye way and so came on to ye Common land at a landing place for hay and marked three Black Oaks, one on ye upper side and two on ye lower side, then we came to two landing places for hay, ye stations were a white oak and a black oak on ye lower side and a white oak on ye upper side ye way marked and so passing a long Stile we marked a poplar on ye lower side ye way and a Burtch on ye upper side, again we passed by a landing place for Hay and marked a walnut and 3 black oaks on ye lower side ye way and a white oak on ye upper side and so we came to a landing place at ye upper end of ye meadow and marked a white oak on each side of ye way.

Matthew Bridge, Francis Bowman, Benj. Wellington.

Note: The oaks at the landing place for hay are gone.

P. 220. Camb. 28 Feb. 1703/4. Whereas ye Selectmen at their meeting on the 19th of Apr. 1703. Appointed Deacon Stone, Mr. Fran. Bowman and Mr. Matthew Bridge a committee to state out and determine a highway for sundrey of ye nighbours northward of ye meeting house at Cambridge Farms, and Whereas according to said Committee's determination in that matter Sd. way is not in ye place (thru Mr. Benj. Muzzy's land) where it was formerly laid out by persons appointed as appears by record bearing Date ye 13 April 16 3. Therefore it is mutually agreed between ye Selectmen and sd. Muzzy that the said Muzzy shall have the Ancient Highway laid out through his land towards Shaw's farm together with 20 Shillings money in full satisfaction for ye land taken from him by ye Committee appointed Ap. 19, 1703 as aforesaid.

Rec'd on ye Day above Sd. twenty Shillings money in full satisfaction for ye land taken away by ye highway above said. Benj. Muzzy.
(Hancock Street.)

P. 220. Whereas there had been a controversy between Philip Russel of Cambridge Farms and Wm. and Jason Russell of Menotomy about land which they bought of Cambridge lying between Meadow formerly belonging to Thomas Oakes of sd. Cambridge, deceased, and ye Highway leading to Capt. Cooke's farm, both parties met on ye place Jan. 6, 1696, and agreed the bounds should run from the butt of a tree blown up by roots by said highway to a stump, and the westerly part of land to be Philip Russell's and easterly part Jason and Wm. Russell's.

P. 222. Whereas John Russell hath made his application to sd. Selectmen that the highway may be stated from his land to Conc rd road through a tract of land in the possession of Edw. Emerson, Esq., said selectmen have appointed Fran. Bowman, John Munroe and John Mason a committee to take a view of said land and if they judge it necessary to State a highway to Concord road as aforesaid and to make return of their doings to the

Note

Note: Edw. Emerson bought the Golden Moore or John Adams farm.

Selectmen at a meeting of Selectmen Jan. 6, 1704. (Emerson owned the Lockwood place, Adams farm. The highway I suppose was the beginning of Maple Street and the lane back of Kennison's Hill)

222 - March 27/ 1704. Proprietors of Cambridge sold to Geo. Munroe a small skirt of land joyning his father's meadow bounded by Mr.Dunster's meadow Westerly, by his father's ditch to a black oak, easterly by land sold by sd. Committee to Philip Russell - 2 acres - 14s.

Note 1 Sold same day to Wm. Munroe and John Russell. One skirt about one acre for six shillings, bounded by a highway leading from Bridge's farm to Concord Rhoad. (Middle St.)

Sold Jno. Dickson and Jonathan Butterfield a skirt of land Joyning their meadow Bounded northerly by an old ditch and on all other sides by their own meadow,for 10 s.

Sold Wm. Munroe, one small skirt of land, one acre, joyning ye meadow he bought of Richard Jackson. Bounded northerly by sd. Church's farm, easterly by ye topp of a ridge near said meadow, for 8s.

Sold Philip Russell 2 acres of upland bounded by his own land round except westerly by a skirt of land sold Geo. Munroe, for 11s. (The Jonathan Harrington family own Dunster's land and house in meadow east of this place and went there Ap. 19/75.)

P. 223. May 5, 1704. Sold to Philip Russell about 2 acres of swamp and upland bounded northerly by Geo. Munroe. Easterly by his own land lead-

Note 2 ing to Alewife meadow Platt, Southward by Alewife meadow Platt and Cane's meadow, westerly to John Dunster, 20s.

Notes: 1. Wm. Munroe bought a number of small pieces over south of Middle St
2. The David Fiske Survey of Allotment I think was in Cambridge town hall till early in the 19th century. Charlestown also had a map by him showing allotments It disappeared between 1714/1767.

Sold the abovesaid Geo. Munroe 2 acres of Swamp, Bounded N.W. by J. Dunster's meadow, Nor. East by said Munroe's land. S.W. by ye above piece of swamp - upland, sold to Philip Russell, and East Southerly by his father Munroe's meadow, for 30s. (Geo. son of Wm. Munroe)

..23, 1704. Sold Jno. Jennery of Watertown one acre of land S.W. by Watertown line and on all other points by his own land. Also skirt of upland on easterly side of his own meadow, containing 1/4 of one acre. Bounded W. by his own meadow, S. by Watertown line, E. & N. by Jno. Dix.

Sold Jno. Dix, Jun'r, one acre, bounded W. by Jno. Jennery and Jos. Wellington, N. by sd. Wellington, E. by Jn. Hastings and Jno. Dix, and S. by Watertown line.

Sold Wm. Russell 2 acres bounded N. by John Russell, E. by his own meadow, S. by Jonathan Cane and Jason Russell, and W. by Jonathan Dunster and Jno. Adams. (This Jonathan Dunster land should be in Jonathan Harrington land that was Dunster land).

Sold Jason Russell one acre, bounded N. by Cane - Dunster. E. by Alewife meadow plat, S. & W. by his own meadows.

Sold Joseph Benner 3 acres upland bounded W. by Philip Jones' land, S. by Jason Russell, East by flax meadow, and northerly by Cooke's farm. (Lowell St. was the way to Cooke's farm) Note 1

P. ..4. 1704. Sold Sam Livermore and Dan'l Livermore of Watertown 3 acres on ye Rocks, Bounded West Northerly by Rock Brook, N.E. by Lt. Jackson, East southerly by land of Enoch Cawtle. W. by highway leading to Mr. Bowman's farm. (Down by Watertown St.) Note 2

Notes: 1. Calls attention to fact of their raising flax.

..2. I suppose Rock Brook was Beaver Brook as it went through Rock Meadow .

1705. Sold Jos. Winship piece of land 4 acres joining his meadow being that part of meadow called Alewife Meadow. Said piece of land is
Note 1 bounded N.W. by Churche's farm, East Northerly by a way leading to Wm. Munroe, Southerly part by Winship meadow, formerly granted Elizabeth Sherburne, and part by Edw. Winship's land, West Southerly by remnant lately sold by said committee to Wm. Munroe and part by Alewife meadow platt. (They hadthen I suppose a platt laid out of Alewife meadow)

P. 225. 1705. Piece of meadow formerly granted to Lt. Edw. Winship as 2 acres, now in possession of Eben'r Swan of Camb. We finding said meadow to exceed the quantity granted by one acre, on receipt of 10s. confine the grant to him. Bounded N.W. by Cooke farm, East Southerly by Jno. Fran-
Note 2 cis his meadow in a piece of meadow commonly called Reedy Meadow, Southerly by Mt. Gilboa, Westerly by a piece of meadow improved by Philip Cook, also a little Island in said meadow sold to Eben'r Swan.

1705. Sold Wm. Munroe, Sen'r, and Wm. Munroe, Jun'r, and David Russell, parcel of land. Bounded north by meadow land of David Russell, easterly by land of Elisha Cook, Southerly by land of John Willington, Westerly by platted land in Hunting Swamp. (Between Middle and Pleasant Sts)

1704 Sold Lt. Jackson one acre Bounded N. & E. by his own land and S. & W. by Sam. Livermore. (I think Reedy Meadow still bears the same name, down by Mt. Gilboa. Tom Hutchinson knows it. It is reedy, too. Hunting Swamp between Middle and Pleasant St.)

227. 1706. Sold Sam and Philip Cook, small piece of meadow and up-
Note 3 land bounded W. & S. upon Mt. Gilboa platt, N. upon his own land, E. by Eben'r Swan, about 1 1/2 acre.

Notes: 1. I don't see how they got Churche's farm down there in Alewife Meadows. The Way to Cooke's farm.
2. Reedy Meadow over by the foot of Mt. Gilboa is still known by that name.
3. Here was another platt.

1704. We, the subscribers, a Committee to take a view of Edw. Goffe's land called ye Oysterbank field, and to state a highway to sd. field if we judge it becoming.

We have viewed sd. Oysterbank field and find it necessary there be a highway through a tract of land in possession of Lt. Amos Marrett and through a tract in possession of Mary Bordman from ye highway which leads from ye highway which leads from ye town to Mr. Pelham's Island to ye abovesaid Edw. Goffe's land called Oysterbank field. We do find an ancient cartway through said Lt. Amos Marrett's land and the Mary Bordman land, which is extended from Mr. Edw. Goffe's land called ye Oysterbank field to a highway that leads from the town to Mr. Pelham's Island, which is reported to have been improved and used as a highway for 50 years and we judge it convenient to be continued. (Pelham's Island is Cambridgeport)

1709. Committee appointed to lay out highway for sundry neighbours north of our precinct as appeared by order of Apr. 17, 1709. Beginning at

Note John Lawrence's house, stating out and determining sd. highway 2 rods wide, all along on ye westerly end of Jno. Lawrence's house stated out to ye brook and so continuing along Ebenezer Nutting's fence that now is till we come to an oak on Mr. Goffe's line and so along sd. Nutting's land till we come to a stump in Goffe's line, and so leading and continuing on the edge of Goffe's land to Wm. Kerly's land, and so through that fenced on both sides and then through Capt. Reed's and Jos. Teed's land where it was formerly agreed upon until we come to Benj. Bates and Jos. Teed aforesaid, fenced on both sides and continuing still across the country road that lead from Concord to

Note: John Lawrence where Paul Revere would have stopped if he had come that way. E. Nutting must have bought up there after he sold the Munroe Tavern land. Upper part of Bedford St. which ran into Hancock St. Benj. Bates was inspired by the devil to kill John Lawrence's cow with an axe. He was not so far off from Lawrence.

Note Woburn, and so through Jos. Symonds, his land, and so along Lydie Teed's land and from there to Benj. Bates fenced on both sides and through sd. Bates' land fenced on both sides to Jno. Hancock's land and through it, fenced on both sides, and so along upon Benj. Muzzy's land on westerly side of Muzzy's fence that now is until we came to Country Road by the Meeting house.

Sam Stone
Fran.Bowman
Matthew Bridge

Hancock St. from Bedford. John Lawrence up at the house "where Paul Revere would have stopped if he had come this way." 11 a. lower down towards the Concord - Woburn turnpike was Benj. Bates on land he bought of BenJ. Muzzy and it shows he and John Lawrence were neighbors when he was inspired by the devil to kill Lawrence's cow with an axe. And you see the Nuttings and Kerleys upon this street also. And Benj. Muzzy has a fence up by the common and if there was a house it would probably have been mentioned.

P. 79. Herbt. Pelham at further side of Vine Brook, one house and 600 acres of land - Concord line North and John Bridge west. In 1642 he owned that. (This is the wrong page for Pelham. It is there somewhere)

P. 79. Richard Champney. In Rockmeadow, the great meadow by the house, 11 1/2 acres, more or less, Edw. Goffe south, John Bridge north, Watertown line.

Note: This was in the Shaw's farm 200 a. region. It was Tophet Swamp and reached S.E. I believe the Tidd land was in Shaw's. That is my remembrance and probably Nutting and Kerley (Carley)

P. 230. May 9/1703. A committee to lay out two parcels of clay ground. Beginning at Lt. Fiske's meadow where we laid out 100 rods of ground in a square piece within Deacon John Cooper's lot which was allowed by the town as did thus appear upon ye platt.

Again we laid out 2 acres of clay land within Ebenezer Nutting's land removing of it from ye place where it is platted out upon ye platt upon a deliberate agreement with Eben'r Nutting unto ye place where it was formerly Digged because of some inconveniency that did appear to sd. Nutting and the hazard that did appear of but a little clay in that ground. We have layed it out 20 rods on two sides, that is to say, on ye North West side and the S. E. side and 16 rods on the other 2 sides, taking in all ye land that was formerly digged, and also layd out a highway from this above sd. clay ground 2 rods wide from the southerly corner of it into ye town road.

Sam'l Stone
Francis Bowman
Matthew Bridge

(Nutting was well up Hancock St. towards Bedford)

P. 233. June 13, 1709. Committee from Cambridge to Joyn Committee from Billerica to settle a road from Cambridge farms to Billerica. Begin at Billericah Line near to Will Grimes on the Southerly side of ye most easterly of ye most easterly Road from sd. Grimes leading to Cambridge thru a farm called Churche's farm and across the Brook. Then an oak on north side of the path and a stake in a heap of bushes in Claffland's field, then to a stone within 10 feet of ye northerly corner of Claffland's barn, then to a black oak stump 5 rods off Claffland's dwelling house. Then to stake on easterly corner of Claffland's field, then to an oak in north side of meadow called Shaw's meadow, and so along that meadow to easterly corner

Note

Note: Mid. Deed. 43-630. Wm. Grimes of Bedford sold Wm. Reed 14 acres, June 24/1741. Meadow, north by Jonathan Robinson, S.E. John Poulter, S.W. Wm. Reed. Elsewhere by Wm. Reed and Dea. Tidd. (North part of town near Bedford)

of that meadow, then South along said meadow to a stump on the south side of the path and then cross said path, and so on by marked trees till said way meets ye way leading from Concord to Woburn, which way we have stated four rods all along on ye northbside of said bounds. Amos Marrett William Russell Francis Bowman.

(I think Mr. Brown of Bedford has an article and a map of old Bedford roads. I think of this one.)

P. 235. Mch. 10/1706. Jos. Fassett asks for highway. Camb. Feb. 16, 1707/8. Committee appointed Mch. 10/1706/7 to lay out highway for accommodation of Jos. Fassett to Meeting and Market. Stated way 2 rods wide in Jno. Lawrence land from Rangeway near Lawrence house to Rangeway where Fassett dwells. Ye way lying on W. side of ye fence of Lawrence field.

We also judge it convenient that there be a highway 2 rods wide cross sd. Lawrence land from a heap of stones above sd. Lawrence's house in ye way stated for ye accommodation of sd. Fassett to a pine on ye North side. Said way to be on ye northerly side of sd. Pine from thence to a flat rock a few rods further from thence Sd. Lawrence's fence to be ye bounds of ye sd. way to Churche's farm.

Which said 2 highways will be sufficient and most convenient for ye accommodation of ye neigh'rs and their lands in that part of the town.

In consideration of sd. 2 highways taken from sd. Lawrence, We agree that sd. Lawrence have ye rangeway from his house betwixt his land and Church's farm. Viz: to ye Easterly side of a Lott formerly belonging to Sam. Cook. Also that sd. Lawrence have ye highway Cross ye Range of both betwixt David Fiske's and Joseph Russell's Lott. Amos Marrett Solomon Prentice Matthew Bridge

(That looks to me as if the upper part of Bedford St. was old and this was it.)

P. 249. 1727. In the upper Division, the first Squadron, in a Neck of Land on ye South side of Dunback near Wellington. Then come small division of 3 and 4 acre lots to Kidder, Manning, Jno. Cooper, David Deming, John Donner, Sam. Cooper, there being a highway on easterly side of ye platt of ye Squadron.

The Second Squadron on the East side of the Bridge's.

12 lots of from 2 to 20 acres given to various people.

The Third Squadron toward Bridge's gate - 5 lots given out.

Note P. 252. The 4th Squadron called 11 acres or the Bellows - 3 lots to Jos. Coolidge, Walter Hastings and Jno. Watson, one to 3 acres.

Fifth Squadron lyes between Alewife Meadow - 13 lots given out.

P. 255. Sixth Squadron on Mt. Gilboa.

P. 257. 7th Squadron, a tract of land sold Benj. Godard called Black Island.

8th Squadron, a Tract N.W. of Bridge's near White's. - 3 lots - Owen Worland, Sam. Cookin, Mr. Fox.

P. 257. Ninth Squadron. Tract called Hunting Swamp - 14 lots given:

14. Sam. Cooke 4 acres
13. Mr. Blower 4 1/2 acres
12. Nat.Hancock 4 1/2 acres
11. Gershom Cutter, 3 acres
10. Jos. Cook, 3 acres
9. Dr. Oliver, 4 1/2 acres
8. Rd. Cutter, 3 acres
7. Capt. Green, 3 acres
6. Sam Bull, 1 1/2 acres
5. Capt. Belcher, 9 acres
4. Jos. Winship 3 acres
3. Sam. Green, 3 acres
2. Nat. Hancock, 6 acres
1. John Hastings, 3 acres.

The 7 mile line was west bound the East bounds not given. The 14th lot was most northerly and bounded on south by lot 13.

Note: There is a lane from Pleasant St. that runs in to Dunback, I think it has been mentioned as a highway.
I think the Bellows is at the Cary place, to the south of it. I think I have a deed of land in which Hastings is mentioned and Slender Gut meadow and the Bellows. Slender Gut meadow is apparent when you look at it. and an Englishman told me the Bellows were places where there were echoes. He knew of more than one.

Sam. Hancock at this time I think you will find in my deeds owned the Munn place. He held it about 7 years but the name Hankers comes down to us. 1704/1711.

257. John Hastings got a lot of 3 acres in the 9th Squadron south of Nat. Hancock and with the 7-mile line on the west. The 7-mile line I think went through Tower's land. Now, if you take the 7-mile line you can lay out the lots on the preceding page. But perhaps the Nat Hancock lot was not the one I speak of.

259. 10 Squadron, called Jackson's Corner. (Probably next to Russell farm on Woburn St.)

264. 1709/10, To Lt. David Fiske. Please send us a few lines under ye hand whether you allowed a highway of two rods wide Round ye farm Commonly called Shaw's farm when you laid out ye Churche's farm and ye Lots beyond ye 8th mile line.

To Selectmen: In laying out Churche's farm and Shaw's farm, I did allow 2 rods in order to highways and also betwixt lots and ye farms everywhere. David Fiske. Feb. 15/1710. (Wood St.) Upper Hancock, upper Bedford St.

265. Cambridge, 1704. Division line between Watertown and Cambridge. I (M.J.C.) begin at East side of Fresh Pond, then to a red oak at Pickette's Point. From thence to a heap of stones and a stake betwixt Jno. Holding and Coolidge - to a stone between Coolidge, Sarah Livermore and Holding's farm, from thence to a post marked between Sam. Livermore and Isaac Holding to white oak in ye fence between Wm. Shattuck and Isaac Holding, to a stone a corner between Stephen Coolidge and Isaac Holding in Camb. and Wm. Shattuck in Watertown, to an old ash in fence between Wm. Shattuck and Steph. Coolidge to an oak between Sam. Livermore and Stephen Coolidge to oak and then to small crotched swamp oak near ye brook, near ye corner

betwixt Mr. Whiting, Stephen Coolidge, Henry Codding and Thos' Philpotts, to a stick at N. corner of Coolidge lott betwixt him and John Wellington. Thence to ye gateway by Jno. Wellington in stone-wall between Watertown and Cambridge etc. etc. to burches in wall on Phil Shattuck's land, to a stake at ye end of

Note 1 said wall betwixt Rock Meadow and the upland. The aforesaid wall from John Wellington to said stake being on the line, from there to a heap of stones on

Note 2 a ridge betwixt Rock meadow and West meadow, then to a heap of stones on a Rock anciently known to be called Beecher's Mark, thence to stone and oak in Jos. Smith's land, to a stump on north side of wall betwixt Jos. Smith, Senior, and Jos. Smith Jun'r, to a heap of stones about a stump on the hill to a heap of stones near ye way leading to Bridge's, to a double red oak on side

Note 3 of a swamp, to a white oak on easterly side of Slender Gut Meadow, to a walnut marked on north side of a great Rock, to a heap of stones on East side of Bridge's meadow, to a great pine on ye west side of Bridge's meadow, to a

Note 4 burch with heap of stones on East side of 11 acre meadow, to an oak on West side of 11 acre Meadow to a heap of stones on top of hill, to heap of stones on East side of Saw Mill brook, to a heap of stones round an old stump at

Note 5 Jno. Cutler's corner, to a heap of stones on top of Mt. Tabor, etc.

It goes then into what is now Lincoln.

Notes: 1. Here you come to Lexington at Rock meadow.
2. West Meadow I don't know
3. Slender Gut meadow is on the map. Look at it and you will see the slender gut.
4. I think you will find the 11 acre meadow also called "the Bellows"
5. Cutler's corner, the west corner of Lexington by Sawmill Brook.

P. 362. May 4, 1711. Highway from Farms to Watertown. Finding land allowed for a way from ye Gate which is in the line between Watertown and Cambridge near Dr. Shattuck's, to a place called Rock brook, they began on West side of sd. Brook and made monuments for west side of the way till they came to a lane fenced with apple trees on both sides near ye house lately Lt. Jackson's, now deceased, sd. fence to be on both sides of the way. Thence the fence to be ye west bounds of said way till it comes to

Note 1 a corner of ye farm formerly Fra. Bowman's, now deceased, a monument of stones on ye corner of sd. farm which is a boundary of sd. way on ye east side from thence to a heap of stones on ye west side of sd. way in Ens. Jos.

Note 2 Bowman's fence. Thence to a stake at corner of Isaiah Whitney's land, and is a boundary of Bowman's farm, to be ye bounds at ye west side and ye line between sd. Bowman's farm and sd. Whitney's land to continue to be ye bounds of sd. way on the west side till it comes to ye going down ye hill. Thence

Note 3 to ye way where it is now trod and in sd. trodden way till it comes to a town way laid out by a former committee and so to continue in said town way

Note 4 till it comes to the west side of a hill near Francis Bowman's land. Then through Jos. Brown's land with trees marked on west side of way till it comes to Isaac Hunt's land, and through Hunt's land, bounding said way on west, till it comes to Edw. Winship's land, and through Winship's land, bounding sd. way on ye easterly side with ye fence which is the line between Winship's land and Hunt's corn-field, till it comes to Nicholas Fessenden's land, and so through Fessenden's land to ye Country road that leads from Cambridge to Concord. In no place less than 2 Rods wide except in lane on south side

Notes: 1. Midd. Deed 1-7. Nat Bowman and James Cutler, Sen. both of Watertown bought of Edw. Goffe, 300 acres adjoining Rocky Meadow down along Watertown St. This was between 1649 and 1651 and in a couple of years Bowman bought Cutler out.
2. In 1698 Josiah Whitney mortgaged the messuage he lately bought of Thos. Whittemore, near Watertown road. Next to Bowman's and east on the hill. In Bk. 13, Middlesex Deeds.
3. Pleasant St. "the trodden way."
4. Is not that hill above Pleasant St. known as Hunt's hill? I have that name in my mind. Very likely a dream.

of JacksonJs house where apple trees are planted on both sides, where ye fence is ye bounds on both sides of ye way.

Quantity of land taken is, viz: Joseph Brown, 18 rods in length, Isa. Hunt 84 rods, Mr. Edw. Winship, 64 rods, and Mr. Nicholas Fessenden 20 rods, which we valued at 30s. per acre. Jno. Oldham) Jno. Dickson) Selectmen Jason Russell) Francis Bowman)

Note

This is Watertown and Pleasant St. It starts at Watertown line. It passes the lane that leads to Bowman's old house. I believe it was called the "Back way to the Rocks." On the west of Watertown St., near the head of it to the south, was what was called Green Lane. Green Lane was a part of Pleasant St. It had a mill pond (Bowman's) and two dams, I believe one above and one below the lane. The corner of Watertown St. and Green Lane was called "Sharp Corner". The portion of Pleasant Street between the head of Watertown Street and the S. W. end of Green Lane was built for the town by Cornelius Wellington's father. Charles Lawrence, a boy, was drowned in the pond and was the first person buried in the cemetery. There has not been a pond, much less a mill, there for 70 or 80 years. Above Green Lane, Pleasant St. did not run as it does now, but made a cut-off. Cornelius Wellington's father built it when this portion was straightened and between that point and Concord road Pleasant St. had several curves and when it was straightened, a building was stuck there and Charles Brown's father or grandfather gave the southern entrance. That made the triangle. I believe the building was a school-house.

Note: Isaac Hunt bought of John Poulter the land where the Viles house was opposite the Russell house, in 1755 and had a blacksmith shop there several years.

272. Boundary between Cambridge and Lexington, 1714. Power granted Lt. Fran. Bowman, Ens. Jos. Bowman and Mr. Benj. Muzzy to join with Capt. Josiah Parker, Lt. Amos Marrett and Mr. Wm. Russell, to settle this boundary.

Beginning ye N. E. course at a rock about 24 feet easterly from ye run of water or Bridge which is on the Southerly side of Sam. Whittemore's house, which was Fran. Whittemore's house mentioned in ye General Courts order Dated Mch. 28, 1712, which rock is in ye highway about 5 ft. on ye N.E. side of ye path going to Concord. Thence to oak in Edw. Winship's land. Thence N.E. by compass to black oak on North side of Mt. Gilboa, and from
Note 1 thence across Reedy Meadow to a black oak on top of a hill, thence to Woburn line. And from the rock first mentioned to a rock about 5 Roods South from sd. Ridge with a heap of stones on it, and to an oak in Deacon Cooper's land, and then on a S. W. course by the compass, to an oak in Sam. Whittemore's
Note 2 land, now ye Widow Whitney's field, thence to stake in sd. Widow's pasture, and to heap of stones in Ensign Jos. Bowman's land, and then to broad, flat rock with heap of stones on it at or near Watertown line in Lt. Nath'l Bowman's field.

Josiah Parker, Amos Marrett, Wm. Russell — Fran. Bowman, Benj. Muzzy, Jos. Bowman — Committee.

Notes: 1. Reedy Meadow is there now. I believe Tom Hutchinson's house has been in 5 towns at different periods.

The Whitney land reached from about where you see F. Lawrence on the 1853 map, S.E. to the boundary line of Arlington.

SOMETHING OF THE ORIGINAL GRANT MADE IN LEXINGTON OR CAMBRIDGE FARMS.

M. J. Canavan,
133 West Springfield St.,
Boston.



Though the Puritan settlers at Boston were religious, they by no means neglected business, and at once began to take advantage of the resources of their new home. Within a year after their arrival they were shipping to England masts which sold at a handsome profit, and a quantity of pitch and tar. At present, we should hardly regard tar as one of our staple products; but glance at the map of Lexington and you will see in the upper part of Tophet Swamp the suggestive name of Tar Kiln Brook.

In March 1631, a man, writing from Watertown to the old country, said that the trade in furs was most profitable, but that one had to go quite a distance to meet the Indians.

The savages had paths through the woods, skirting the uplands, avoiding swamps, making long detours to get by them, and wherever they crossed a brook it was at a place which would be selected by a modern engineer or surveyor. In fact, our old roads are developments of the still older Indian paths. I fancy that Shade Street, Cutler's lane and the West end of Bow Street were parts of the old "Virginia Road" from Waltham to Concord; Mr. Webster Smith said he had heard it called part of the Virginia Road. They went a long, circuitous way to avoid the brooks and swamps as much as possible.

Cutler's lane, a hundred years ago, was quite a highway. The Waltham road was not straight as it is now, but had curves before it touched Lexington and after. In joined on to the west end of Bow Street and then the road followed Cutler's land, Shade Street and up through the woods by the place where those Abbotts lived, the family into which the Lawrences married.

I had been led to this conclusion by looking at the old maps and reading the account by the settlers of Concord, and Mr. Smith's reported tradition seemed to confirm it, or rather, to give some credence to it. Then in Brown's History of Bedford there was a road that ran over to Hartwell on the Virginia road.

The great Indian highways were the rivers. From the forests in Massachusetts and New Hampshire the red men came in their canoes, paddling down the Nashua and the Merrimac and up the Concord and the little Shawshine to exchange furs for the cloths, trinkets and weapons of the paleface; and at a very early date a trucking post was established at the falls of the Shawshine near the boundary of Lexington and Bedford.

It seems a strange business centre; but study your map and remember the furs were carried in canoes. Then you will see it was the most convenient place, for the traders from Boston and Cambridge to meet the Indians from the Merrimac. There was of course a magazine where the bartering was done, and goods were carried to and fro between Shawshine and the falls at Watertown on pack-horses over an Indian path. At Watertown they were again put in boats for Boston. The settlement of Newbury and Norwich soon killed Shawshine as a business centre.

A portion of this path was the old Bedford road. It ran along Hancock Street, which the earliest deeds refer to as a path; and then followed the general course of the main road to Cambridge. Another path branched off at Pleasant Street in East Lexington and turned down Watertown Street. This way brought the Indians to Beaver Brook and to the falls at

Note

Note: I think the upper part of Hancock St. ran a little different. Perhaps I marked it on a plan and gave to the President of the Historical Soc.

Watertown on the Charles, where there were great runs of salmon, shad and alewives in their proper seasons.

When Pleasant and Watertown streets were laid out at the beginning of the 18th century, they were described as following"the old trodden paths."

In 1639 the General Court was looking after the roads for in June of that year "the Inhabitants of Cambridge" were warned to make good the way over "Vine Brook" and "Long Swamp" on the road to Concord. This road was laid out by David Fiske acting under Lieutenant Edward Winship.

"Long Swamps", I presume, is on the Concord road at the boundary of Lexington and Arlington, for the Committee of the General Court stated in 1684 that the dividing line should"begin at the first run of water or swampy place, where there is a kind of bridge in the way on the South side of Francis Whitmore's house towards the town of Cambridge."

This shows that Whitmore owned land at the boundary and that his house was North of the road near the line. How much land he owned there I do not know. He had, about the middle of the 17th century, a grant of some 40 acres and another of 20 acres up by "the Rocks", and Edward Parks, in 1648, was given 72 acres with the highway to Concord North and Thomas Chisholm East. (Proprietors' Records of Town of Cambridge 139)

Note Francis Whitmore married Isabel Parks about 1648. He lived, according to Paige's History, first in the town of Cambridge, but moved to his farm and must have lived near Alderman's, or farther down.

Coffe had a large tract over at the Watertown road, and Park I think butted his land. In short, Whitmore owned land lying up against Arlington Heights reaching over towards Watertown Street.

Note: Probably got some of the Park's land.

If you run across the term "Long Bridge", remember this "built-up bridge" down by Alderman's.

Edward Winship had a farm granted him, 1648, (Prop. Records 130) 240 acres. On the East was Edward Parkes, showing that Parks or Whitmore was there between Winship and Arlington line. Thecommons were west and Robert Holmes Northwest. Winship's land ran out into Alewife Meadows, nearly over to Lowell Street.

At the same time, Robert Holmes was given 104 acres with Edward Winship East, Golden Moore North, and the Common West. His land was at "Hog-house Brook," and elsewhere it is called "109 acres of upland and five acres of meadow." (Proprietors' Rec. 130.)

"Hog-House Brook", now called "Hog-pen brook", crosses the road just below the residence of Charles Brown in the East Village. The name is suggestive. By the brooks the pig-pens, and the goodman's house near by.

When Francis Brown bought this house, soon after the fight, an old building stood on it with windows of little diamond-shaped panes of glass set in lead. The old structure was used in building the new house.

Whoever is eager to know more of Robert Holmes can find at the New England Historical and Genealogical Society, an autobiography of his life and his conversion, in a note-book, which was kept by the Rev. Thomas Shepard. A magnifying glass goes with the book, and the librarian will stand by with an amused look on his face as one tries to decipher the crabbed and microscopic abbreviations of a by-gone age. There were no capital crimes in it. Nothing but peccadilloes, such as the modern golfer joyously commits every Sunday.

Robert Holmes died in 1664, and in 1667 his son, Joseph, sold the farm to Nicholas Fessenden, and some of it has remained in the Fessenden family till recent times and very likely till the present day.

Next above, came the Golden Moore farm at Independence Avenue: "117 acres in the waste lands of the seventh mile." I think that means it ran up to the seven mile line. Forty acres of it was given in 1648 (Prop. Rec. 138) and more later on.

There was an affidavit in the Proprietors' Records that Moore sold it to John Adams, and in 1664 the Proprietors of Cambridge lands laid it out to him "in the Waste land in the seventh mile" bounded "Northeast by the widow Russell's farm, which was bought of Richard Jackson." Richard had received of the town eighty-one acres in the meadows along what is now Woburn Street, in addition to some that had already been given to him at that place.

To the east of the Moore or Adams farm was "Alewife meadows" and South was Joseph Holmes. On the west was common land. The northern boundary of the Golden Moore or John Adams or Emerson farm (for in 1703 John Adams sold it to Edward Emerson, a schoolmaster of Chelmsford) was Pelham's farm. Mason's hollow was its northern end. In the latter part of the 19th century I noticed that an old solitary fence-post stood for years on Tower's wall at the turn of the road above his drive-way. The old boundary of the two farms, and I think the seven mile line were either there or near by; and it occurred to me that someone had known it had been the boundary line of an old farm. The Pelham farm and Adams farm met close to that post.

In 1664, when the town of Cambridge laid out this farm to John Adams they made an allowance for the great highway that leads to Concord, and for "the highway that leads to Matthew Bridge's farm." (Bridge's road was originally quite crooked.) (Middle Street)

Matthew Bridge was the son of John Bridge, who came to Cambridge with Hooker's congregation. He was a friend of the Rev. Thomas Shepard; and when Hooker and his flock talked of leaving Cambridge, he was largely instrumental in inducing Mr. Shepard and his congregation to settle in Cambridge, and was one of the earliest and largest grantees of land at "the Farms." He owned several hundred acres and as early as 643 was given land at Vine Brook near his earlier and improved land. The fact that his grandson Matthew in the first half of the 18th century built four houses for his four sons will give an indication of where and what that farm must have been.

The four houses are the one at the Estabrook and Blodgett farm, that at Grasslands, the house at Valleyfield, and the Patty Bridge house, on a lane opposite Forest Street in Waltham, now owned by a Mr. Broderick. Mr. Bradford Smith told me, "Patty" and her sister "Frizzie" Bridge lived there in the early part of the 19th century.

The Bridge estate touched Pelham's on the north, and on the southwest reached to Waltham. On the southeast it reached to Edward Goffe's farm. Goffe received a grant of land in 1642 by Vine Brook, 600 acres more or less. Herbert Pelham and John Bridge's land on the north.

Note Mr. Nathaniel Bowman and James Cutler bought 200 acres of this land in 1649. In 1651 Cutler sold his portion to Bowman and moved to Wood Street. This land was in the southwestern part of Lexington, next to Arlington Heights and Watertown, lying along Pleasant Street and the way to Watertown and the "Back Road to the Heights."

Another of the original grants was "the Stone farm." Some 6[illegible] acres were given to Deacon Gregory Stone. His sons David and Samuel settled on it about 1650.

Note: I wonder if he made tar up there near Tar-kiln brook when he moved to Wood St.

It reached from the Hastings or Cary place along Lincoln Street on "Stone's road", as it was called, over into that part of Lexington which is now Lincoln. David lived over in Lincoln at what is now the Stockpole place and Samuel opposite the end of Weston and Shade Streets, where the house stands now occupied (1897) by Mr. Gallagher. Weston Street was laid out in 1714 to accommodate some of the Stones and Merriams who had married into the family, and also to favor John Cutler who lived at the foot of Mt. Tabor. The road ran down "by the great rock", crossed the brook there, and went on to Cutler's house. If you go down that road and see "the great rock" you will know it at once. Cutler's cellar can still be seen over there at the foot of Mt. Tabor. A Chandler married into the Stone family in 1754, and built the house on what was known as the Jewett place. It is now (1897) owned by Joseph Hynns. All of the Stone family seem to have left this region. But as late as 1870 Mr. Bradford Smith and Albert Bryant bought a piece of land over that way of the heirs of Gregory Stone. It had never been of record in the registry of deeds, having come down by descent in the family for over two centuries.

One meets curious expressions in the old deeds, reminiscences of the old country. Writing of the Cary place brought back to my mind a deed, to or from a Stearns I think. It was of some low land southwest of the Cary place. A little brook ran through it, making a narrow strip which was a little lower than the rest, and a little greener. It was called "Slender-gut meadow." There was also an allusion in the deed to "the Bellows." I think the meadow was at a place called "the Bellows."

I was telling an Englishman of several of these old-fashioned phrases: "Snock farm", the "nesting-rails", "Big and Little Dunback." Those

two

tle

Note 1 last were knolls and I suppose got their names because the grass in the drier land turned dark more quickly. It was evident how "Slender-gut meadow" got its name; but I told him I did not see what "the Bellows" meant. "Oh, that's a place where there is an echo. I've known two or three places called "the Bellows" at home on account of the echo." I have never been at this place since and have wondered if there was an echo. There well might be. There is rising ground behind it. I cannot give the deed for I have not taken much care of my notes and have lost the reference.

I notice that in laying out lots in 1707, the Proprietors of the

Note 2 Town of Cambridge give to three men lots in "the fourth Squadron, called "11 acres or the Bellows." (Proprietors' Records Page 252). One of the men was Walter Hastings and the Cary place had belonged to a Hastings.

Other names were "Ready Meadow" in the southeast part of the Great Meadows; "Rockmeadow" on the Watertown road at the line running towards the Cotton Spring; "Bullmeadow" at the Burlington line; and "Huntingfield." The Dunbacks are on a little lane leading north from Pleasant Street, and Huntingfield is between that and Bridge's.

The Pelham farm of 600 acres at Vine Brook was laid out to Richard Harlakenden, who never came over. Then it was given to his brother Roger. The Harlakendens were great people in England. Mr. Thomas Shepard had been chaplain to them and had exorcised for them an evil spirit which rang bells and frightened them. Naturally, there was great mutual respect between the Harlakendens and Mr. Shepard.

Roger Harlakenden died after he was here a short time, and Herbert Pelham married his widow. Then these 600 acres were given to him. There was a house on the land in 1642.

Note 1: Dunbacks on Wellington land. I notice in Burr's Middlesex Atlas two mounds west of Pleasant St. where Watertown St. leads off: Big and Little Dunback, probably.

2. The Cary place was next to Slender Cut meadow.

Mr. Pelham was an excellent and a rigid Puritan of high birth, a magistrate and treasurer of Harvard College. He returned to England in 1649 and till his death was an active and powerful friend of the Colony. Mr. Pelham was of Swinstead, Lincolnshire, and of Ferrars. He was a member of Parliament in 1677 and died at Boston in England in 1674.

His son Edward was a scapegrace, and was sent over to our Cambridge in the hope that good associates might mend his manners and his morals. When he was in college, he handed a gun to young Uriah Oakes, the minister's son, and got him to shoot the Marshall's turkey perched on the Marshal's own fence, under pretense that it was a wild turkey. Then he wrapped the bird in Uriah's coat and sent it to the tavern-keeper. Pelham and three classmates had a feast and then came inquiries and trouble. It does not appear that anything happened to Pelham or to young Oakes; but blind and impartial New England justice, after weighing the crimes, fined the tavern-keeper 4 shillings for entertaining students contrary to the law.

Probably the authorities did not want to worry old Herbert, who was near his end, for the boy had always been a thorn in his side. Herbert Pelham had been a great friend to the Colony. It all happened in the fall of 1674, a few months before the old man's death. But though the records are silent we may feel sure that Edward received private admonition. Sewall tells of a case where the president himself administered it with a strap.

Edward Pelham showed no fondness for Massachusetts, and went to Newport after graduating the next year, 1675. One might suppose this affair was simply a boyish escapade but letters of a later date by Thomas Brattle refer to him as the "falsest and most disingenuous of men."

Note 1 The Pelham farm reached up the Concord road from a point a little above Tower's driveway to "the eight mile limit." This line ran from Rhodes' farm through Hastings or Cary Park, striking the Robinson place between the driveways; goes back of Gilmore's house and through the swamp a little to the rear of the old burying-ground; and following the ditch and brook crosses Bedford Street by Blake's house, and, continuing, crosses Hancock Street by Batchelder's. The Pelham land ran up Granny's Hill to an old wall back of Hayes' barn.

On the N. E. it butted up against Captain Cooke's great farm of 600 acres, which extended to Woburn with Vine Brook on the West and Russell East.

The lowest part of the ridge along which Woburn Street runs was another spot where the Cooke and Pelham lands met; and in the 17th century

Note 2 a ditch is mentioned as if it had been dug across the road to let some of the water flow off from the swampy land on the N. W. of it towards the Munroe Brook. That would be diverting water from the Merrimac to the Mystic.

North of Pelham farm was John Tidd, and N. E. and East was the Cooke farm. I think the Pelham farm ran up the hill to a stone-wall near Hayes' barn. Beyond that the hill had been mostly in the Col. Cooke farm. That wall was an old dividing line.

As we are up against Cooke's farm it is well to say something of him. He was a man of importance in Cambridge. He was twenty-five years old when he came over in the same ship with the Rev. Thomas Shepard. In 1637 he built the first grist-mill in the colony, where Cutter's (or Fowle's

Notes: 1. That is, it did after Edward got the additional grant of 150 acres for what had been laid out was 150 acres short of the proper amount.

2. On reading the deed again, I doubt if the ditch was there but rather an ordinary ditch.

mill or Gerlach's mill) is. The old dam can still be seen half way down the pond when the water is low. This mill cost several hundred pounds and was a great undertaking for those days. Roads from Woburn and Watertown were laid out to reach it. Captain Cooke became captain of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery in 1643; and was the first captain of the Middlesex County Militia in 1644. He held high offices, but returned to England in the Fall of 1645; became a colonel of a regiment of foot soldiers under Cromwell, when the General set out to subdue Ireland with an army of 17,000 men. At the start Cooke's regiment mutinied. Many deserted, but the officers gradually appeased the soldiers and got them on board the ships, telling them they were the chosen instruments by which Heaven was to overthrow the empire of Babylon, and establish a new Jerusalem. This was not mere empty words to them. They believed the second coming of Christ was at hand, and that they were the "Saints" and would live and rule forever. The army was told to treat the Irish people as the Israelites were bidden to treat the Canaanites: to destroy them completely, to show no mercy.

At Drogheda or Tredath all the inhabitants but thirty were slain, and those left were sold as slaves in the West Indies. Cromwell wrote as follows to the Speaker of the House of Commons: "Our men getting up to them were ordered by me to put them all to the sword. And, indeed, being in the heat of the action I forbade them to spare any that were in arms in the town; and I think that night they put to the sword about 2000 men."

Emanuel Downing wrote to John Winthrop, Jr., "Cromwell went to Dublin, thence to Tredath, where he lost many men; but, at last took it by storming and put all to the sword; but 300, who were in a fort had quarter. Thence he came to Wexford, took it, put most of them to the sword, and left Colonel

Cooke there Governor (late of Cambridge). Ireland is almost subdued."

Cromwell wrote of Wexford, "The garrison made stiff resistance, but our forces broke them, and then put all to the sword that came in the way. I believe in all not less than 2000. Thus it hath pleased God to give into your hands this other mercy, for which, as for all, we pray God to have all the glory. Indeed your instruments are poor and weak and can do nothing but through believing, and that is the gift of God also."

In all this good work, which would have made the perpetrators of the massacre of St. Bartholomew turn green with envy, Neighbor Cooke played a prominent part. Dr. Nicholas French, bishop of Ferns, wrote of the slaughter and of his own adventures: "I sought a refuge in the wilderness; but neither woods nor caverns could afford me a lasting refuge, for the heretical governor of Wexford, George Cooke, well known for his barbarity, with several troops of cavalry and foot soldiers, searching everywhere, anxious for my death, explored the highest mountains and most difficult recesses. Among those subjected to much annoyance on my account was a nobleman in whose house he supposed me to be concealed. He searched the whole house with lighted tapers, accompanied by soldiers holding their naked swords in their hands to slay me the moment I should appear."

Colonel Cooke was proud of his men. He wrote of his foot-soldiers: "They are the best in the world, they easily make thirty miles a day. There are no stragglers except ahead. The cavalry, though well mounted, cannot keep up to them."

This Arlington miller, Lexington farmer and Captain of the Middlesex militia, kept on "stamping out rebellion in Ireland" till some misguided Popist gave him his quietus in 1653.

In the Boston Public Library there is a letter from his daughter, Mary Annersley, to those who had been her guardians. She states that her father left for England when she was so small a child that she hardly knew her parents and was notoriously cheated of her land by a wicked step-mother. She brought a suit and recovered some land in Ireland. But other wrongs had been done "God's afflicted handmayde." She has been living in Westminster and hears that a power of attorney was received in New England to sell her estate. But, if so, it was a forgery of this cruel step-mother. She never signed such a paper nor received any money.

Nevertheless, according to the records Mary Cooke, spinster of St. Martins in the Fields, London, gave a power of attorney to Edward Collins of Medford to dispose of such lands as were her father's, Col. George Cooke, in New England, and now belonging to her. Under that power he conveyed to John Rolfe of Nantucket Island, Planter, for £60, 600 acres in Cambridge, north by Woburn line, South by Herbert Pelham, Esq., East by land of the Widow Russell, and West by Cambridge Common and some other lands.

John Rolfe died at Newbury Oct. 1, 1671, and Mary Rolfe, his administratrix, conveyed to Richard Gardner one-fifth of a farm of 640 acres at Vine Brook in Cambridge, called Cooke's farm, said Gardner being a joint purchaser with her husband, John Rolfe, of Captain Cooke's farm at Vine Brook; but said Gardner had never had a deed of his portion. Gardner lived in Woburn. (M. Deeds VIII-402.)

John Rolfe left his farm to his sons Samuel, Joseph, Benjamin and Moses to be equally divided, they to pay legacies of the estate to their sister. The sons of John Rolfe moved to Woodbridge, N. J. in 1675, and there are many Rolfes in Long Island who are descended from them.

William Cutter of Arlington married John Rolfe's daughter. Moses Rolfe, a son of John, in 1711 conveyed to John Cutter 130 acres of Cooke's farm of 640 acres bounded North by Woburn, East by heirs of William Munroe and Russell, S. by Pelham, West by Mead and Locke (M.D. 16-691)

In 1718 (Midd. D. 13-71) John Rolfe sold his brother-in-law, William Cutter, 100 acres of Cooke's farm, bounded North by Woburn, East Wm. Johnson, South Vine Brook, West Sam Whitmore. That seems to be up by the Trotting park, reaching to Burlington.

John Harrington, the 2nd, married Elizabeth Cutter, daughter of William and Elisabeth Rolfe Cutter, 1735; and had land along East Street. He had a house a little to the east of the yellow lean-to which Dr. Fiske built and lived in later. Harrington probably got his land through his wife. In 1713 he gave the town a right of way over his land. This would seem to be East Street.

Harrington owned the northeast half of Granny hill. He or his son Henry moved over on the lane at the foot of Granny hill. Henry's wife died at the age of 94. The hill got its name from her. She was a crank.

In 1700 John Cutter of Woburn sold Captain Simonds 30 acres near Bull meadow brook; bounded Southerly by the Concord Road; North by Bull Meadow Brook. The location of this piece of land would show where the old Concord-Woburn road of 1652 entered Woburn.

In 1707 William Cutter sold William Locke of Woburn 20 acres of the Cooke farm.

These deeds show how the Locke, Simonds and Harringtons got land between Woburn and Granny hill and the Trotting Park.

Here is some more of the Cooke farm. In 1712, (Midd D. [illegible]-387) Benjamin Muzzy conveys to his son Amos a mansion house, barn and 42 acres S.W. by Vine Brook, S.E. by Cutter heirs, N.W. by William Locke and Woburn line, N.W. by heirs of Sam. Whitmore.

On p. 383 of same volume is recorded conveyance by William Locke, Jr., of Woburn, to Amos Muzzy of 2 acres bounded N.W. by Amos Muzzy, N.E. by William Locke, S.E. by Deacon Locke, S.W. Amos Locke.

Page 388, same volume, a conveyance by Wm. Cutter to Amos Muzzy of 10 acres S.E. by John Cutter, East by William Cutter, N. Deacon Locke, W. Amos Muzzy.

And on p. 389 Josiah Simonds of Woburn sells Amos Muzzy in 1726, mansion house and 1/2 acre of land, Highway east, and elsewhere by John Hancock.

Here are conveyances of land which was almost all Cooke land, up apparently between East Street and Woburn, and the Cutter heirs still had some of the Cooke land left.

When Lydia Mulliken's house was burned by the British, Amos Muzzy, the son of this Amos, let her live for a year or two in one of his houses. The Mulliken family say in the south half of the Holmes house. Mrs. Gleason said that was a new house when she was a child, and I can find no reference to it at that time of the fight, nor by Artemus D. Muzzy, and Loring Muzzy told me he believed that house was built by his grandfather for his two sisters. If that house was not then in existence, here are two which an Amos Muzzy had fifty years earlier. If they were standing she could have gone to one of them.

The Roger Shaw farm was North west of Cooke's. In 1648, (M.D.1-94) Roger Shaw, for £10, sold Michael Bacon and Wm. Simonds of Woburn, 100 acres in Cambridge. Cooke's farm was on the Southeast, the Common for other bounds, "with all the meadows adjoining the great swamp near the east corner of Concord bounds that fall into Cambridge bounds." Concord here means Bedford. The great swamp was Tophet Swamp.

I don't know much about the Shaw farm, nor have I much personal actual knowledge of the region.

In 1675 Dan. McGinnis (McGeney) sold John Tidd one-half the land he bought of Michael Bacon of Cambridge, bounded east by W. Simonds, John Allen North, Common land South and West, twelve acres to John Tidd and John Allen.

Note In 1681, (B. 18 p.64) Joseph Simonds, carpenter, of Woburn, bought 47 acres of this Shaw farm of James Simonds.

Some Meads lived up in the North part of the town. In 1677 (B.[illegible] p. 324) John Johnson of Cambridge sold to Israel Mead "35 acres near upland called Shaw's farm, upland and swamp and meadow, and a small dwelling and outhousing." That was up well towards Bedford.

And it is in my mind that William Carley (or Kerley) bought some of the farm up near Bedford and long the road.

On the East side of the Cooke farm in 1711, James Connett, Husbandman, of the East Jersies, for £20. conveyed to William Munroe, senior, John

Note: 1706. When John Poulter sold Joseph Loring 70 acres of land where Griffiths house is, he bought 75 acres up on the Bedford road and at his death Poulter left most of his land to his descendants the Harmon Reeds and the Simonds. Capt. Hammond of Watertown was the father of Mrs. Poulter. John Poulter's will is in my notes on deeds.

Comee, William Munroe, Jr., George Munroe and Daniel Munroe, all of Cambridge. 105 acres of upland and meadow in Cambridge, being a part of the farm called Captain Cooke's farm, East on Moses Rolfe, South on Russell's land, S.W. by Pelham farm, N.W. by Vine Brook. James was the son of John Connett who married Mehitable Gardner and apparently got the Gardner share of the Cooke farm.

There was a gathering of pretty much the whole clan of Munroes to dig up the money for this purchase.

Note John Comee was the son of David Comee, one of those Scotch prisoners who were sent over in 1652 in the John and Sara. Wyman, in his Charlestown Genealogies, notes that David Makhony was servant to Edward Burt, 1656, and David Mecomey married Hester Harvey Sept. 6, 1671.

John had married Martha, the eldest daughter of William Munroe and was living in a small house where the Munroe tavern now is. This piece of land bought by the clan seems to be between Granny hill and old William Munroe's place near the crossing of "the way to Roe's" and "the way to Cooke's farm."

There was an earlier deed of Aug. 6, 1651, by which Thomas Weld, attorney for Joseph Saunders of Dublin, Ireland, for £71, sold to William Munroe of Cambridge, thirty-six acres of land: Captain Cooke's farm north and west, Richard Jackson Southwest, and East and South Common lands. A John Saunders had married Esther Rolf, daughter of John Rolf. The Jackson-Russell farm was on the southwest. This piece lay along Woburn Street over by Lowell Street.

Note: David Mackhonie was killed in the fight at Sudbury 1676 and in his probate is a most beautifully written paper by the administrator, a Mr. Wheeler. I never saw so good writing in the old Script. It ought to be photographed or a photostat made of it. The widow asks that her sons be apprenticed to trades. A portion of Concord where he lived was known as "Scotland" just as a part of Lexington had that name. The Widow says she is 60 yrs. old and David left 6 children, 4 by his 1st wife and two by her. Asks judge for a guardian to set them to some good place. Chances are Wm. took young John Comee.

William Munroe had at least 140 or 150 acres of the Cooke farm, but in general his land was east of Cooke's, and he was down there in that portion of Lexington called Scotland as early as 1647 on lands granted to him by Cambridge.

He was a persistent buyer of small lots of land anywhere in town, when the town of Cambridge was selling off two, three or four acre pieces to meet little expenses.

Southwest of the Jackson-Russell farm was Edward Winship's, reaching up the Alewife (or Great) Meadow, pretty near to Maple Street. Edward probably lived in the town of Cambridge; but his son Ephraim resided on a lane leading off from "the way to Cooke's farm" (Lowell Street) into the meadows, and the lilac bushes and traces of the well can still be seen (1897). The house was torn down by Charles Harrington long ago, and the material was used in building a house where he lived, now (1897) occupied by Mr. Spalding in the East Village, opposite Village Hall.

Edward Winship's other son, Edward, owned the old mill where the brook leaves the meadows, and ran it two centuries ago. He may have lived in the old house that stood back of the Lexington Inn, on the north side of the railroad. It was said to be the oldest house in town and was burned between 1850 and 1870. His land extended across the highway and up the hill on the other side of it.

It is very likely that the first William Munroe was employed by Edward Winship when he came over, as that gentleman bought the services of several of these Scotch redemptioners. They were treated liberally and given an opportunity to acquire land of their own, so Mr. John Cotton wrote home. I believe they worked for themselves alternate days. The court records of Cambridge would indicate they were quarrelsome, and naturally.

The Munroe land reached down both sides of Lowell Street nearly to the reservoir. At least, William the second and his son William, who died 1747, had land there. On the death of the latter it went to his children with a double share to the oldest son, Edmund. He bought up the rights of the other children and owned [illegible] acres.

After his death the farm was bought by his younger brother, Nehemiah. Edmund, the son of Captain Edmund Munroe, lived with his uncle at Roxbury; and it was Nehemiah's intention to leave this farm to his nephew, but he died intestate, and the farm was sold to Antipas Grover, Esq.

The Putnam, Beard or Chipple Estate was a portion of this farm, for all I know, the whole of it. The house where Captain Edmund Munroe and his father lived was under some big elm trees on a little bend to the east of the old road which diverted from the modern turnpike. It has not been there for many years. It was used as a pest house early in the 19th century. I write from memory as I have lost my notes about this farm.

VERY EARLY LEXINGTON

and

NEW ENGLAND CUSTOMS AND LIFE.

Written before 1900.

A French advocate began a plea for his client in this manner: "Before the creation of the world..." "Oh, for Heaven's sake", said the judge, "let's skip over to the Deluge, at least."

In writing of the early people of Lexington, one is somewhat at a loss to know just where to commence. I have adopted the method of this advocate, and begin at a period some seventy years before its creation as a town.

The early history of Lexington is part of the history of Cambridge. In 1636, the northern limits of Cambridge ran out eight miles into the country from their meeting house, and reached up to the swampy land just beyond the old burying ground of Lexington. Our common and Harvard Square are, therefore, practically eight miles apart.

In 1644, the territory called Shawshine was granted to Cambridge, and included Billerica, Carlisle, Bedford and part of Tewksbury. In 1655, Shawshine was set off and incorporated as Billerica.

The northwest part, remaining to Cambridge, was called the Farms. The Farms were set off as a distinct village Dec. 15, 1691, and on March 20, 1713, the region was made the Town of Lexington.

Notice the March 20th: This was then the beginning of the legal and ecclesiastical year. But some persons began the year on January 1st; and in all dates at this time, you will find double dates from Jan. 1 to Mar. 20 inclusive. For instance, March 19th would have the double date of 1712 or 1713. This continued well into the last century. I think it was about 1752 that our town records discontinued double dates.

The first people to hold land at the Farms were of the congregation of the Rev. Thomas Shepard, whic came over in 1635 and 36, and settled in the houses deserted by the Rev. Mr. Hooker and his congregation, who had left Cambridge, and had gone to Connecticut.

John Bridge came over earlier, and prepared the way for them. He was the ancestor of the Lexington Bridges. The influential men of Mr. Shepard's congregation were granted lands at the Farms, and grants were made to Roger Harlakenden of six hundred acres of what is now the centre of the town. This land came to Herbert Pelham in 1642, and then had a house on it. Pelham married a Harlakenden widow and got the land also. This house was probably in the vicinity of Vine brook. John Bridge was given 350 acres, over by what is known as the Tompkins, or Goldthwait, estate. Edward Goffe, probably a relative of Goffe the regicide, had 600 acres touching Pelham's and Bridge's estates on the north, and extending to the Arlington line, and towards Watertown. Edward Winship, at an early period, had land down by the great meadows. He did not reside there, but his son Edward did, at the saw mill just about where the brook leaves the meadow, close by the ruins of the mill dam you can see there; and Ephraim Winship, another son, lived on the "Great Meadows" on a lane leading off Lowell St., or as it was then called, "the way to Capt. Cooke's farm." There are lilac bushes and the traces of a well there still. Francis Whitmore lived down by Mr. Alderman's, and his land was the dividing line between Cambridge and Lexington. He married the daughter of Richard Park.

William Munroe, who was sent over, a captured prisoner, by Cromwell in 1651, probably worked for Winship; and when he took up the tract known as Scotland, only went a mile or two further into the country.

Mr. Bowman and James Cutler bought some of Goffe's land near Arlington in 1650; but Cutler sold to Bowman the next year, and took up land near Concord, at the Hartley place.

Lt. David Fiske settled about 1660, at the Fiske place, where Jos. F. Simonds lives, and sold the Tidd place to John Tidd in 1686.

Isaac Stone moved in from Watertown near the line in 1660.

William Locke, in the middle of the 18th century, lived on land in Woburn, afterwards set off to Lexington.

Joe Meriam of Concord came in about 1661.

David Stone and Samuel Stone, sons of Deacon Gregory Stone, came about 1650 and settled over by Lincoln. George Adams was over by the Watertown line in 1664. His son George, known as a chirurgeon, or bone-setter, born in 1647, grew up and lived here.

Most of the people lived over by Cambridge and Watertown. While Cromwell was Protector of England, this was a favored colony. With the restoration of Charles II, began a struggle for charter rights, which resulted after some years, in the abrogation of the charter. On Oct. 19, 1664, the inhabitants of Cambridge, and of course this included the people at the Farms, presented a petition to the General Court, which is interesting, as it shows that the ideas and principles that prevailed at the time of the Revolution were no new thing, but that they had always stood up sturdily for their charter rights and the right to choose their own Governor.

"Forasmuch as we have heard that representations have been made to His Majesty concerning divisions among us, and dissatisfation with the present government of this colony, we desire to express our unanimous satisfaction with the present government, and wish it continued, and all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, which are contained in the charter granted by King James, and King Charles the First, "of famous memory," under the encouragement and security of which we, or our fathers, ventured over the ocean into this wilderness, through great hazard, charges and difficulties. And we desire our honored Court to address his Majesty, asking for the continuance of the present establishment, and of all the privileges thereof, and that we may not be subjected to the arbitrary power of any, who are not chosen by this people according to their patent."

Among the subscribers are Deacon Gregory Stone, the father of the two Stones who lived at the Farms over by Lincoln; John Bridge; Francis Whitmore; Richard Cutler; John (X) Adams; Richard Park; Daniel Stone; Samuel Stone; Jeames (X) Cutler; John Winter; Joe Meriam; Isaac Stearns and David Fiske.

John Winter and Isaac Stearns came to the Farms from Watertown. Joseph Meriam married Sarah Stone, the sister of Samuel and Daniel, and settled at the Farms on Weston Street; he came from Concord. The names of these people come one after the other on the petition, as if some one, after getting the signatures in the town of Cambridge, had mounted his horse and had ridden up to the Farms, called at their houses, and procured their signatures.

In taking the oath of allegiance at this period, people did so, stating plainly that in taking it they were to be understood as not to infringe upon the liberty and privileges granted in the Royal Charter to the Colony.

They had no trouble here, with any of those pests of that time, Witches, Anabaptists or Quakers, and very little even in the town of Cambridge. To be sure, the Widow Holman, who lived down in what is now Linnean Street, Cambridge, was accused, in 1660, of being a witch, but she was acquitted, and in defence of her character produced a certificate signed by two Deacons, John Bridge and Gregory Stone, father of David and Samuel, stating they could perceive no grounds to suspect her of witchery, that she was diligent in her calling, frequented public worship and given diligent attention thereto. Among the subscribers were the "Farmers" Matthew Bridge, and Francis Whitman.

There were but few Indians in this vicinity. A pestilence had swept them off by thousands; in 1617, 19 out of 20 died. This region was under the control of the Squaw Sachem, the widow of Nanepashmet, and she married Webcowitz, her chief conjurer, witch, powwow, or medicine man. He was only a prince consort, however. She conveyed away her lands, reserving a life interest, and Cambridge gave her a sum of money; and a coat was given to her every year.

Her immediate followers were on the west side of Mystic Pond, and lived peaceably with the whites. Their land was fenced off, and the people paid for all damage done their crops.

In 1644, Squaw Sachem put herself under the Government of Massachusetts. She died in 1660.

There were also some Praying Indians at Wamesit, or Tewksbury.

Massachusetts was not a perfectly uncouth wilderness when the settlers came here. The Indians were in the habit of burning over the meadows and keeping them clear of bushes; and every November, the Indians burnt out the underbrush in the forest, so as to be able to see game readily. The settlers did the same thing. It was a general custom, and I presume they did it here. But the bushes must have grown considerably after the pestilence had swept off most of the Indians of eastern Massachusetts. In 1743, a law was passed forbidding this burning, as it impoverished the land and prevented the growth of new trees.

Most of the grasses we have were sowed here, and are not the original rank growth. The "Ministerial" land was sowed with a new grass as it was brought under cultivation. Jonas and Marrett Munroe did most of it in the next century.

The farmers lived their dull, hard life undisturbed till 1675. Farming, raising cattle for market, hunting, getting bounties on wolf-heads. I ran across a note somewhere of Matthew Bridge, or John Cutler, I have forgotten which, getting a bounty for the heads of wolf whelps, about 1670. But I lost track of the note, and am uncertain which it was.

There were moose here in the early days, and deer, and altogether too many bears and wolves. There were also wild turkeys, and the migration of immense flocks of pigeons did not cease till well into the present century.

King Philip's War came in 1675, and though prior to that the colonists had lived in peace, from that time on till the Revolution they were almost constantly fighting the Indians and the French. And it is an error to suppose the men who stood up on the Common on April 19, 1775, were a band of simple, innocent, inoffensive rustics.

Some one has said that when the Puritans came to this country, they first fell upon their knees, and then upon the aborigines. As a matter of fact, they tried to deal justly with the Indians, and bought their land of them,- of course always driving the hardest bargain they could. But though the Puritans were an excellent and a just people according to their lights, they were a hard people to get along with. Their ways were always right, and other people's ways wrong, and not to be tolerated. Even John Eliot tried to make his Praying Indians conform to the cast iron rules and morals of the Puritans, and lectured them upon the evil of wearing long hair.

The war began in the summer of 1675, by skirmishes at Narragansett Bay. (And a chief made it a boast that no white man would dare to put his head out of his house.) Philip was driven from Narragansett, and fled to the Nipmucks, in what is Worcester County, and they joined him, and many praying Indians did also. They were largely forced into this by the atti-

tude of the colonists themselves, who treated them with suspicion and hostility.

Among the volunteer soldiers of the colony was Captain Mosely, "a privateer of Kingston," and the distinction in those days between privateer and pirate was the distinction between tweedledum and tweedledee. He was probably one of Buccaneers who infested the Spanish Main. And Mosely had under him a company largely composed of privateers of the same kind, some of whom had been sentenced to death for piracy. They fought for prize money, for booty, for bounties on scalps. Mosely was a bold man and a good fighter, and in those days of cropped hair wore an immense wig which he used to take off, when going into a fight, to the terror of the Indians, who could not understand such hanky-panky tricks; called him the man with two heads, and at first thought it useless to try to kill him. He treated the Praying Indians so brutally that he forced many of them to join Philip; and though he fought well, probably did more harm than good.

Philip harried the Connecticut valley, burned Lancaster, Groton, Marlborough, Sudbury, carried off many into captivity, scalped the prisoners, made them run the gauntlet, and the Indians cut out collops of flesh from the prisoners, and then thrust hot embers into their bleeding wounds, or burned them at the stake.

This terrible war raged for more than a year, and over six hundred white men and women were killed, 600 houses burned, and twelve towns destroyed. Haverhill, Billerica, Concord and Sudbury were frontier towns, and were garrisoned. There were five garrison houses in Concord. One of them was at Merriam's Corner. And though no Indians got to the Farms, yet the inhabitants lived in constant fear, and the town of Cambridge began to erect a stockade near what is now Harvard Square.

Down by the ruins of the old mill dam, where the brook leaves the great meadows, Edward Winship had a saw mill. To the north of him lay the knoll which was called Mt. Ephraim, after his brother Ephraim Winship, w who lived a short distance from the other side of the hill on a lane leading from what is now Lowell Street. Ephraim's wife died in November, 1675, or in November, 1676. He married the daughter of Francis Kendall of Woburn. He died in 1696, childless; and when they were settling up his estate, Mr. Kendall demanded payment of a debt, because in King Philip's War, his "son in law came to his house for shelter, for fear of the Indians, because his living was at that time in woods, remote from neighbors, and brought his ancient mother in law, Regnier, a widow, of whom he was to take care, and said Francis Kendall did keep said widow Regnier for said Ephraim Winship more than a year and a half, at £8 a year."

Although this war was a terrible strain on the colony, and called forth all their resources, they made no appeal to England for help. They were called "poor but proud." But they were content if the mother country would only leave them alone. Feeling that if they got help from England, it would be followed by some curtailment of their charter rights and privileges.

In November, 1675, a number of men were impressed as soldiers in Cambridge. Among them, from the farms, impressed as troopers, were David Stone and Samuel Stone, Jr., and Benjamin Muzzey, of Romney Marsh (now the town of Revere) was also impressed as a trooper at Cambridge at that time, and had apparently just come there. The fact that they were impressed as

Note

Note: This seems to point at Benj. Muzzey managing the Pelham farm in 1675

troopers shows that they were all of the well-to-do class. This was the same neighbor Muzzey who bought 206 acres of Pelham's land in the present heart of the town, and of whom the Common was bought. He was then eighteen years old. Edward Winship was also impressed, but was released by order of the Council.

As private soldiers appear the names of Francis Bowman, the son of Mr. Bowman who lived over by the Arlington line. The title of "Mr." meant something in those days, when only about one man in fourteen was entitled to bear it. It was not till about 1750 that our town records began to distribute this title liberally.

Matthew Bridge, over at the Goldthwait place, was also impressed, and he served also in the expedition against Canada, in 1690.

James Cutler and Samuel Cutler, from the Hartley place, towards Concord, were impressed, and Ambrose McFassett (there could not have been many of that strange name about), and as there appeared a Jos. McFassett up by the Bedford line some years later, who afterwards dropped the "Mac" and became simple Jos. Fassett, Ambrose might have been his father.

Note

John Adams and Thomas Adams were possibly of the Farms. There was a family of that name over by Watertown, and there was a John among them. One of the family was George Adams, born 1647, who was known as a chirurgeon, or bone-setter. He was also in the war. John Winter, of the Farms, was one of the soldiers. He lived up Wood St. way.

The great fight of the war was the Swamp fight, when the united forces of Massachusetts, Plymouth and Connecticut attacked the Narragansetts in their fort in the swamp near Kingston, R. I., on the 18th of December,

Note: There was Anguish (Angus probably) McFassett and Patriarch McFassett stood for Patrick.

1675. There, the colonies made their supreme effort, and collected 1,000 men, Massachusetts contributing over 500. All the troops were massed for this one effort; and though there were 3,000 Indians in the strong fort, the soldiers by fierce fighting carried the day, losing six captains, 85 men, and 150 wounded. The Indians probably lost, in men, women and children, about 1,000.

And most of the men above mentioned were in that fight. Matthew Bridge and Sam Stone certainly were, and Sam Stone was wounded there.

They did not serve for long periods, but were allowed to go home occasionally, and were called out again, perhaps in another company. Matthew Bridge and John Adams, in the summer of 1675, served under Capt. Prentice, in the early fights around Swansea and Mt. Hope. Bridge was paid then for two or three months' service. December 3rd, Prentice was appointed the command of a troop of horse in the Narragansett campaign,and under him was Benjamin Muzzey; in Capt. Hutchinson's Company, were John Adams, Sam. Stone, Jr., and David Stone as Middlesex troopers. Jan. 27, 1676, this company was dismissed for a time. Sam Stone evidently recovered soon from his wound, for he was paid off again June 24, 1676.

Benjamin Muzzey was probably in Lexington by that time. He had come from Romney Marsh, and I fancy was looking after the Pelham farm for Edward Pelham.

Besides Muzzey, James Cutler, John Winter and John Adams were under Henchman, Sept. 23, 1675.

Francis Whitmore, from down by Mr. Alderman's, was under Maj. Willard, Sept. 23, 1675. So were John Adams, David Stone and Sam Stone, Jr. They were probably with Willard at the relief of Brookfield.

Ambrose McFassett was in Davenport's company, June 24, 1675.

Sam Cutler was under Capt. Joe Sill at the Swamp fight.

In writing this article, I first gave a description of King Philip's War, trying to make it interesting by bringing in the story of the sudden appearance of the Regicide Goffe in the attack on Hadley, and how he brought victory out of defeat, and then disappeared; but when I learned to my satisfaction that the whole story was untrue, not only that no Goffe appeared, but also that the attack did not take place, I gave that up in disgust. Then, as these men who were impressed were sent out under command of Capt. Sill, I followed Capt. Sill, and traced all his movements and wrote them down, because so many Lexington men were with him. When the muster and pay rolls showed they were not with him, I cut that out. They were scattered around under many commanders, and served all through the war, and in most of the bloody fights, going home every now and then,- for a week in April to plant, and Henchman's men again in May, as they all had the grip, or an"epidemic influenza" which is the same thing.

The troopers were armed with breastplates, back pieces, head pieces, and a buff, or quilted, coat, swords, carbines, pistols and bandoliers. These bandoliers were broad straps thrown over the shoulder. They had a row of little metal boxes in them, each of which held a separate charge of powder. They looked like a row of sleigh-bells. At the beginning of the war some matchlocks were used, but they were soon replaced by snaphances or firelocks. They also had knapsacks or snapsacks.

This bloody war ended practically in the midsummer of '76, when Philip was shot, and his head exposed on a stake at Plymouth, and his hands were shown in public in Boston.

It is curious to look back these 200 years, and see these farmers dressed up like Cromwell's soldiers, in corselets and head-pieces, armed

with matchlocks or snaphances and some with pikes, going out to fight the enemy. When you read of "Nibour Muzzy", that pillar of the church, it seems strange that when a boy of eighteen, he was out as a trooper, fighting King Philip, and that his son Benjamin, in 1707, was out fighting the French and Indians,- and was "captived" and kept as a prisoner several years in Canada.

After King Philip's War, no other storm brewed, till the cyclone came, which killed John Robbins, July 6, 1680.

A whirlwind arose, "at first in a small body, near Mr. Samuel Stone's, (over by Lincoln) passed on to Matthew Bridge's, taking part of Stone's barn with it, and killed John Robbins, who was at hoe (I suppose that means hoeing) breaking his arms and jaw bone. It buried stones, and broke off and transported trees, in an unusual manner. A jury of inquest sat the same day and rendered their verdict, "We find him very much bruised and his jaw bone broken, and one of his arms; and several other wounds about his head, which we judge to be by a most tempestuous storm or whirlwind, that after a most formidable manner blew up trees around him, removing great stones from under the fence that was just by him, with other most dreadful and amazing effects which many were eye-witnesses unto."

So it seems we are in the cyclone belt.

On the 11th of October, 1682, the Farmers presented a petition to the General Court, saying that at present there are 30 families or 180 souls living at the Farms at a great distance from the public place of worship in Cambridge, the nearest 5 miles, more 6 miles, some 7, some 8, some 9 or 10 miles from it. That they struggle with great difficulties, and at some

seasons are obliged to be absent, especially the children, for whose spiritual good they are solicitous. That they have represented to Cambridge that they desire liberty to call a minister to preach and to catechize their children, and are willing to build a meeting house and advance £40 per annum for the minister's maintenance; but they got no relief or encouragement from Cambridge; and, "perceiving the sad effects of this remoteness from the public worship of God, and particularly in respect of their children, and those that shall come after them, lest they grow weary of attendance upon the public means of grace, and think it too much (as Jereboam tells Israel it was to go up to Jerusalem) to travel so many miles for such an end, and so should cease to worship the Lord God of their Fathers, think it their duty to pray the Honored Court to consider the case and allow them to provide a minister meet and able to dispense the word of God, and that they may be freed from payments to the town of Cambridge, from whom as their dear and beloved brethren, they in no way desire separation for any other cause, and declaring it to be their standing affliction and cause of grief that by reason of their remoteness they have not been in a capacity according to their desires to enjoy more fellowship and communion with them." This was signed by James Cutler, Matthew Bridge, senior, David Fiske, senior, Samuel Winter, senior, Francis Whitmore, John Tidd, Ephraim Winship, and John Winter, in behalf of the rest of the families.

.At that time, they used to travel on horseback, and the women sat behind the men on pillions. There were no sleighs, and in case of a heavy snow-storm, the only way to get to church was on snow shoes: so it is no wonder that at some seasons they were found to be absent from church.

This was a good petition, but the General Court had its hands full at that time. They were in expectation of general bankruptcy, and were struggling to keep the charter. The town of Cambridge opposed the petition, and it was laid over till the next session. Then Cambridge remonstrated, and pleaded their poverty, and that they would be greatly dammified if any of the outlands were granted to the Farmers, and that "the distance from the public place of meeting with us, is but the same it was when they first settled themselves and their families there."

In 1693, the town of Cambridge took a wise precaution against being dammified by the loss of its outlands, for it began selling off rapidly at low prices its land beyond the eight mile circuit; and John Poulter, an old time real estate speculator, came in from Billerica, and bought and sold; and brought others in. The Reeds came in at this time, and John Tidd. The inducements to settle were great,- very low prices, and in a short time they would be only a mile or two distant from the new meeting house. During the next three years, North Lexington became the most thickly settled portion of the Farms, for these reasons.

The establishment of a church at the Farms was discussed more or less during the years succeeding, but there were disputes as to the dividing line. They were having a lively time with Governor Andros, and then came the Revolution of 1689. Nothing was done till 1691, when the Court allowed the Farmers to invite or settle an able and orthodox minister for the dispensing of the gospel among them, and the southern boundary of the parish was fixed at a swampy place just south of Francis Whitmore's house, now Alderman's.

The court preserved to Cambridge the ownership of the "Outlands", some of which was afterwards sold to the North Precinct for a ministerial fund. The separation was made in a friendly spirit.

I insert here a list, found in Paige's History of Cambridge, of persons and estates, taken in August 1688. It contains ratable polls and estate at Cambridge Farms, or Lexington. Polls rated at 1s. 8d; estates at a penny in the pound. (This is not in Hudson's History.)

Persons		£	s.	d.
3	Matthew Bridge, person and estate, is	0	11	06
1	Philip Jones "	0	03	07
1	Widow Boeman "	0	6	0
1	Francis Boeman "	0	5	3
1	George Adams "	0	3	1
1	Thos. Smith "	0	3	7
1	Jas. Cutler, Jr. "	0	3	2
1	Sam. Stone, Jr. "	0	3	3
3	John Winter, Sen. "	0	11	7
1	Thos. Cutter "	0	4	7
1	John Cutter "	0	1	9
1	Sam'l Cutter "	0	2	1
1	Thos. Johnson	0	1	8
1	John Stone, Sam.Stone's son "		4	4
1	John Miriam, person and estate		3	7
1	Widow Miriam "		6	8
1	Joe Miriam "		4	2
1	Isaac Stearns "		4	5
1	John Stone, David Stone's son		4	3
2	Sam'l Stone,Sen., person and estate,		11	9
1	John Stearns "		2	5
0	David Stone's estate "		1	7
1	Daniel Stone, person		1	8
1	David Fiske "		6	3
1	David Fiske, Jun. "		4	11
1	Ephraim Winship "		5	6
1	John Russell "		4	8
1	Philip Gleason "		2	1
3	John Tidd "		9	8
2	William Munroe, person and estate,		8	10
2	Sam. Whitmore "		7	0
2	Benj. Muzzy "		6	8
1	Will Reed "		3	3
1	Joe Simms "		4	11
1	John Johnson "		2	6
1	Will Johnson "		2	1
1	Samuel Winship "		3	8

If you remember the names of people who have been mentioned in this article, you will see that almost all of them lived on the outskirts of Lexington. The big central tract of 600 acres, belonging to the Pelhams, remained unbroken and unoccupied, except by the persons who managed this estate for him. And you may think this was because Edward Pelham kept a tight grip on this land and would not sell. I think this is an error. When Herbert Pelham died, in 1673, he left certain personal estate to his son Edward, on condition that he could prove he had reformed, and become sober and sedate. The real estate in New England was left to him absolutely without condition, and Edward was the kind of a man who would have sold anything for a fair price. The outskirts grew because the Farms were settled by the inhabitants of the neighboring towns, who came in and took up land which was nearest to their old place of residence and their old church. It was simply the overflow of the population of Cambridge, Watertown, Concord and Woburn.

The Pelham land, although the geographical centre of the Farms, was the one spot most remote from friends, most remote from a church. And it was not until after the agitation to be made into a separate parish, that the Pelham lands became desirable. They were 8 miles from the Cambridge church, 7 from Watertown, 6 from Concord, 7 or 8 from Billerica, 7 from Woburn. But when the idea of a separate parish started, the Pelham lands became the centre, and were desirable, because the meeting house would be in the centre of the parish. Of course, Pelham did not sell during the time when Cambridge was selling off its outlands for whatever they could get, in the fear that they might lose them outright. But when it was decided that Cambridge should still own its outlands, and the low prices stopped and fair prices ruled again, Edward sold, as he would have done at any time for a good price.

In 1692, the parish built a meeting house in the centre of the parish, and Mr. Benjamin Estabrook began to preach. And John Poulter came in, and in 1693 bought the southerly 212 acres of Pelham land. He was always on the lookout for a good purchase. Mr. Joseph Estabrook, of Concord, bought the easterly 200 acres, and Benj. Muzzy bought the northerly 206 acres. (It was the Concord minister who bought of Pelham).

Note 1 As to Benjamin Muzzy, he was about the age of Edward Pelham. He lived in Cambridge and may have managed the estate for him. He lived here at the Farms in 1688, five years before he bought this land. He was of the well-to-do class, and when he bought, there was a mansion house and barn

Note 2 on his land, so that it is a fair presumption that the old Pelham house of 1642 stood at the Muzzy house by Vine brook.

In 1632, while the congregation of Mr. Hooker were living in Cambridge, the people of the town agreed to meet on the first Monday of each month, to discuss their affairs, at the meeting house, within half an hour of the ringing of the bell. When Mr. Shepard's congregation came, they did the same, and his bell called them together till 1700, when Capt. Andrew Belcher gave them a new bell, and it was voted at the parish town meeting to give the little bell to the Farmers. And here it remained till 1762 when Isaac Stone gave the town of Lexington a new bell, and the old

Note 1: And the Muzzys had been managing the big Keayne farm at Romney Marsh for Nicholas Paige till it got involved in law suits between Paige and Elisha Cooke and the Muzzys were pulled into the quarrel also and the elder Benjamin put in jail for not paying Cooke rent.

Note 2: The old Pelham house was down by the brook where the Muzzy house used to be in the 18th and early in the 19th century. The Buckman tavern I have shown elsewhere was probably built by John Muzzy between 1709 and 1714 It was in the 100 acres added to what had been set off to Herbert Pelham. There was no house on the land Benj. Muzzy conveyed to John Muzzy. John built after he bought it in 1709, and he was not much of a tavern keeper at first. As late as 1716 he was described as a weaver, in deeds.

bell was disposed of by a committee chosen for that purpose. I have found no intimation on the town records as to what they did with it. Perhaps even now it tinkles on some Massachusetts factory or village church.

Note

March 20, 1713, 21 years after being made a precinct, it was set off as a separate town by the name of Lexington.

.....

As to the first settlers in Massachusetts.

Men and women wore a doublet, and above it the men wore a kind of jacket, and if they were of good condition, the sleeves of the jacket might be slashed to show a silken lining beneath. At the neck they had falling bands, or a broad linen collar. They wore trunk hose and long stockings, and shoes with buckles or rosettes. A beaver or felt hat, conical, or like those of the beef-eaters at the Tower of London.

The women wore hoods or broad brimmed hats, pointed stomachers, a gown and woolen petticoat of a bright color; a broad collar on the shoulders. The common people wore leather clothing, generally of dressed deerskin, a red knit cap, and their over-jackets were fastened with hooks and eyes. The shoes had wooden heels.

Where the county courts sat, one could see the stocks, the whipping post, the pillory and the gallows; and these only passed away just before the present century began.

They married young. Marriage was a civil ceremony, not to be performed by a mininter, but by a person appointed by the General Court for that purpose. It continued as a civil ceremony till the middle of the 18th century.

Note: And don't think you can find that little bell. Mr. Fred, L. Gay searched high and low for information about it, but in vain.

The Sabbath day began at sundown on Saturday and lasted till sundown on Sunday. No one could walk for pleasure on that day, or travel, cut hair or shave, make beds or cook.

Dress was regulated by law. Tobacco was frowned on, as were long hair and wigs; and Judge Sewall spent several hours remonstrating with some backslider who had shaved his hair and donned a wig.

Slaves they had, and bond servants were shipped over from England,- generally captives in war, like William Munroe,- and put out to service for several years. They used no tea or coffee. Beer was brewed at home weekly, and the dregs, or emptyings, were used for yeast. During the 18th century, cider gradually took the place of beer, to a large extent, but beer was still made and used. Potatoes did not come in till the 18th century, with the Scotch-Irish immigrants, and were not much cultivated before 1750. Indian corn, beans, pumpkins and turnips were the principal vegetables; and they learned from the Indians how to bake beans in pots. Josselyn, in his journal, says the standing New England dish was stewed pumpkin with a little butter, spice and vinegar.

They did not eat so much meat as we do. They could not afford to. In the summer, they had salted meat, and boiled it. Fried salt pork they had. When the winter came on, Matthew Bridge might kill an ox, keep a quarter of it, and give the rest to Mr. Bowman, Samuel Stone, or James Cutler, from whom he would receive payment in kind the next season. They would put the meat in a box and pile snow on it, and in this way could keep it and have fresh meat a good part of the winter.

Indian corn was their main stay. They lived on it, and sent it to market in the form of beef and pork. Their bread was "Indian and rye." In country districts, this was the usual bread up to fifty years

ago. Wheat flour was only used for a couple of bakings in the year, at Thanksgiving and election times. Indian pudding, boiled in a bag, was another standing dish. Two families in Hadley are reported to have each eaten 365 such puddings in the year. Sometimes they put suet in these Indian puddings. The nursery rhymes indicate that bag puddings were common in the old country, only barley meal was used instead of Indian.

"When good King Arthur ruled the land
He was a goodly king,
He stole three pecks of barley meal
To make a bag pudding."

By the time of King Philip's War, the larger virtues of the early settlers were giving way to the New England traits of shrewdness, thrift, and dull, hard plodding and saving. The children of this chosen band could hardly be expected to be up to their standard. They were brought up in a crude wilderness. Those who lived here were remote from schools. Many had to sign their names by a mark. There may have been a Dames' School here, but I doubt it. When the boys were not doing their chorse, they were skirmishing round in the woods after wolves' heads, for the bounty of thirty shillings,- 15s. for whelps. And during the next 100 years, there were but few years when there was not also a bounty offered for Indian scalps.

The first houses were log houses, with thatched roofs and immense chimneys which carried off nine-tenths of the heat, and in which hung hams and flitches of bacon to be smoked. The chinks in the sides of the houses were daubed with clay.

These gave way to a better class of houses, built round a big chimney,- story and a half houses, with lean-tos covered with cloven boards,- clo-boards, or clapboards,- and shingles. They would have two front rooms,

and back of them the kitchen, which was the living room, and the buttery. There were small fireplaces in the front rooms, and an immense one in the kitchen. There were a couple of rough rooms up-stairs, to which the children climbed by a ladder, or it might be by stairs, and where they would sleep on coarse beds of hay, straw or corn-husks. Just think of the comforts of a lodging like this, of a cold winter night, with a storm howling on the outside, and the wind whistling through the garret so that the snow would lie around in little drifts on the floor in the morning. What fun it must have been for young Jeames Cutler, or Matthew Bridge, to jump out of his corn-husk bed in the morning, to find his leather breeches half buried in a snow-drift, and frozen like a board. Just picture to yourself that garret, with a temperature like Greenland; see Jeames pounding his breeches to make them limber, and then working himself into them. What is Eastern luxury in comparison with this simple New England life? Boys did not loiter under these conditions, but made the greatest haste to get down to the fireplace, and rake over the ashes, pull out the embers, put on the kindling and light wood, and blow it up into a flame.

The fireplace was like a cavern. At its side was an oven for baking. In the fireplace was a big swinging crane, from which hung pots and kettles, and near by the fire hung the iron tongs, the long fire-shovel, the iron peel, the skillet and warming pan. In the fireplace was an immense backlog, a forelog, and a top-stick, all green, and split wood, chips and brush were piled against them. They took great care of the fire, almost as much as the Vestal virgins did in old Rome, for if it went out, they had to go to a neighbor to borrow some, either embers, or a candle lighted in a tin lantern; and if that failed, then the tinder box and flint were used, or a

flint-lock and wad of tow.

Every house was a factory, where they did their own spinning and weaving, dyeing and tailoring; or rather, they generally spun their wool and took it to someone who was a weaver; and then some other man or woman cut the clothes and made the clothes. The Bond girls were tailoresses, and I think one of the Joseph Lorings was also. They made their own candles of tallow and bayberry wax, which burnt with a fragrant smell. In the spring, they made soap from the refuse grease left over during the winter, and lye made from wood ashes.

The kitchen was the living room. The walls were of matched boards. There was no plastering; that did not come in, to any extent, till just before the Revolution. The beams above, and the under side of the board floor above, were planed smooth. Dried pumpkins, cut in circular slices, hung on poles suspended from the joists, for pies and sauces. From the pegs in the rafters hung long strings of dried apples, crooked necked squashes, peppers, and herbs for medicines.

The fire-lock hung in a place by the fire, to keep it from moisture, and possibly also a head piece or breast piece, such as Matthew Bridge or "Nibur Muzzy" wore, when they went out to fight King Philip. And near the door hung the snow-shoes.

There was much discomfort from cold in these houses in winter. Even a century later, John Adams used to groan and wish he could go to sleep like a bear when the winter came, and not wake up till spring. Little Anna Greene Winslow of Boston as late as 1770, in a fine city house, writes, "My basin of water froze on the warm hearth, with as good a fire as one could make in the chimney." Someone, I think John Adams, writes of seeing the juices stew out of the green logs in the fireplace, and run along to the end of the log, and there freeze.

The big wood fire roasted one-half of a person while the other half froze. Cold drafts swept through the room, and a big high settle stood by the fire, which was the seat of honor, and the children sat or lay down on the floor by the fire, studied their horn-books or catechism; or baked apples on the hearth and watched them sputter. Perhaps a piece of candle-wood, or a pine-knot, blazed in the side of the fireplace to give additional light. The polished pewter dishes, ranged on a dresser, shone in the firelight.

For supper, they would eat in common, out of a great wooden or pewter bowl, their bean porridge, or hasty pudding and milk, after reading from the Bible a fervent supplication. In the early times, their table frequently consisted of a big block of wood, and the seats blocks of wood or rude chairs made at home. No mention is made of forks, not even two-tined ones. None were used. Even the Rev. Thomas Shepard had no forks. (Forks were not much used at that time in England. It was something new,- a fad, a new fangled thing even in the old country.)

After supper, the good wife either stood by the big wheel and spun wool, or sat by the little wheel and spun flax, and the goodman and his son were whittling out implements,- rakes, ox-bows, swine yokes, or making such things as powdering tubs for salting down meat, or making wooden shovels with an iron edge, or perhaps some were shelling corn on the edge of such a wooden shovel as the one in the Library. The good-wife might be dressed in a lindsey-woolsey gown, with a red petticoat. She wore her hair lightly raised from her forehead and brushed back; and the men (I am not speaking of the English who came over, but their children) wore blue woolen frocks, leather breeches, long stockings, and brogans with pewter buckles. The boys wore shirts of brown tow, waistcoat and breeches of butternut colored homespun. In the summer, the boys and probably men, too, went barefoot.

The floor would have no carpet, but would be sanded and swept into wavy lines by the heavy broom of birch twigs.

They were very superstitious, and looked upon every accident as a judgment. People always wondered what their dreams meant. If the fire won't burn, or the baking turns out badly, a witch has done it. The land was full of omens at the time of King Philip's War. Noises like artillery were heard, trampling noises like Indians making an attack; and people were filled with terror.

John Duren, or Durant, of Billerica, was a victim of the witchcraft delusion, and was carried down through Lexington, imprisoned at Cambridge as a witch, and died there in jail in 169[illegible].

Their religion hung over them like a pall. The belief in the total depravity of all men, even their own children, threw a gloom over men and women; and as for the children, they lived in abject fear of the future. A hymn which was a great favorite in the last century gives a vivid picture of what was present in the minds of every one:

"Far in the depths where darkness dwells,
The land of horror and despair,
Justice has built a dismal cell,
And laid her stores of vengeance there."

In the early period of New England, the capital crimes, and the laws punishing them, were taken from the Old Testament; and by them, a stubborn or rebellious son, on complaint of the parents, might be put to death. Their authority for this is not any English statute or precedent, but a couple of verses of Deuteronomy. It does not appear that any children were put to death for this crime, and the law was repealed in 16[illegible].

Many of the children must have felt towards their fathers as Emerson did towards his father, who was of the same rigid, severe type.

Note Emerson feared him, and said, "When my father called me, I felt as Adam did in the Garden of Eden, after he had eaten the apple, and heard God calling him." Luckily there was another type than this stern one. There were those kindly, gentle, devout natures, to whom their religion, as it fitted them, gave an additional charm. Such were John Winthrop and his wife, Margaret, and such, at a later date, was Emerson's aunt, Mary Moody Emerson.

Babes were baptized the Sunday after birth (generally at the afternoon service, after the sermon) no matter what the weather or temperature. Their whole future might depend upon it. Remember, there were no fires in the meeting house.

Sewall writes of a cold storm,- "Bread froze at the Lord's table. Though so cold, yet John Tuckerman was baptized. My ink froze so that I could hardly write by a good fire in my wife's chamber." And again, "Day louring after the storm. Child shrank from the water, but cried not."

They were tough and strong, the successors of the early settlers who reached manhood. Only the strong grew up. Being baptized alone carried off a large proportion of puny infants.

In 1662 appeared that great poem of the Rev. Michael Wigglesworth of Malden, entitled, "The Day of Doom, the Puritan's Dies Irae." This was a sulphurous poem. Prof. Tyler, in his History of American Literature, has a good account of it. "A light breaks out in the night, and terrifies people. Christ the judge appears. The earth quakes. The trump is sounded. The dead rise. All are brought before the tribunal. The saints appear, and are placed on thrones. Then the wicked, the hypocrites and others, are ranged in order, till at last the "reprobate infants" are reached. They

Note: You will find this in Geo. Woodbury's "Life of Emerson."

argue against being sent into Hell forever on account of a sin committed by Adam, all the more as Adam himself was seated in bliss in one of the most comfortable thrones among the saints. But their arguments are swept away.

"A crime it is, therefore in bliss
You may not hope to dwell;
But unto you I shall allow
The easiest place in Hell."

Then the wicked are doomed to everlasting conflagration:-

"Die fain they would if die they could,
But death will not be hade;
God's direful wrath their bodies hath
Forever immortal made."

The last strain celebrates the felicity of the saints, who rejoice to see justice inflicted on the wicked world."

This was the most popular American poem up to the Revolution. Lowell says of it: "It was the solace of every fireside, the flicker of the pine knots by which it was conned adding a livelier relish to its premonition of eternal damnation." Its pages were assigned in course to little children to be learned by heart, along with the catechism as late as the present century, and caused sensitive children hours of the most poignant anguish. Mr. J. F. Simonds told me of his mother's dread of death and future fate and how he tried to comfort her.

What a pleasant view of the future opened up before little Benjamin and Hasaniah, as they sat in the big fireplace roasting apples, and read this poem, and repeated the Westminster catechism, and prepared themselves for the visit of Deacon Gregory Stone, or Deacon Chisholme, as they rode up from Cambridge on horseback, and made their catechising rounds among the people at the Farms.

WARS FROM KING PHILIP'S, 1675,

to

KING GEORGE'S, 1755,

and

LEXINGTON MEN IN THEM.

Written between 1890 - 1900.

M. J. Canavan,

133 W. Springfield St.,

Boston.

We all know in Lexington that there was one day in which the town achieved renown. And we are apt to think that that was the one day in which brave deeds were done.

But Lexington has a military record before the days of the Revolution, worthy of consideration, and I have already written something in reference to what they did during King Philip's War in 1675 and 1676.

I shall now give a sketch of the wars of the Province from that time up to 1750, and the part that Lexington took in them.

At the time of King Philip's War in 1675 the settlements in Massachusetts did not extend far from the coast; except those that gradually grew up in the Connecticut valley. The garrison or frontier towns were Haverhill, Chelmsford, Billerica, Concord and Sudbury. Groton and Lancaster lay outside of the line, and the inhabitants of these towns were driven out by the Indians.

After King Philip's War, there was a period of peace which lasted till the accession of William and Mary to the throne in 1689; and then began a series of wars with the French and Indians which lasted with some intermissions for 70 years.

During King Philip's War, Matchlocks were still used to some extent; but, by a law of 1693, matchlocks were discarded; and the foot soldiers bore fire-locks and bandoliers, a sort of cartridge belt worn over the shoulder. Each soldier was given a pound of powder, 3 lbs. of bullets, 12 flints and a sword or cutlass. Men between 16 and 60 were liable to service and the soldiers were to appear with their hair or periwigs tied up in bags and hats briskly cocked.

King William's war was the result of the Revolution in England, when James the Wnd was driven from the throne, and William and Mary became

king and queen of England. France received James and took his side, and war was declared by England against France in 1689; and lasted in Europe till 1697, when the war was ended by the Peace of Ryswick. We were not allowed to remain neutral.

In 1702, began Queen Anne's war, as we called it, or the War of the Spanish Succession, as it was known abroad. This lasted till the Peace of Utrecht in 1713. Again we were not permitted to remain at peace. The French did not want to fight in America.

In 1744, began King George's war which was also known as the war of the Austrian Succession. This war ended in 1748 by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle. These were the durations of the wars as they went on in Europe. And for 50 years we and the French and the Indians were cutting one another's throats; to settle a question as to whether this or that prince should inherit some European throne, about which we didn't care a Rapp.

But the wars did not cease in America as soon as they did in Europe; for they began here early and lasted longer. The trouble with the French might cease, but the border warfare with the Indians still continued. What did they care for peaces of Utrecht or Ryswick? We did have peace here between 1726 - 1744.

By 1689 our frontier had extended a little. A line drawn from Falmouth or Portland by Scarborough, Saco, Wells, York, Amesbury, Haverhill, Andover, Dunstable, Chelmsford, Groton, Lancaster and Worcester constituted the frontier of Massachusetts. The burden of war fell heavy on these towns. The Iroquois fought with the English, and the Algonquins on the French side. And the Province offered a bounty for Indian scalps, at

first £8 to £10, and afterwards £20; The settlers were apparently having plenty of excitement at this time without the war, thinning off the wolves, for in 1692, the Treasurer of Middlesex County paid bounties for 57 wolves which had been killed. It was customary to tack up the wolves' heads by the meeting-house door.

During these wars the population was stationery or diminished. By 1706, one-third of the people of Maine had perished in this warfare. It was necessary to maintain garrison houses or forts all along the frontier line, and to send out scouts and militia companies against the Indians and French. Several times the Indians made forays and murdered and scalped people within 10 or 15 miles of Lexington.

And though we can know but little of the part played by Lexington men in these wars, yet it is evident that the military spirit was rife here, as the old rime about the four sons of the first Wm. Munroe shows:

"Lieutenant John and Ensign Roe;
Sargent George and Corporal Joe."

Four officers in one family. All of them but John probably lived near, or with the old man in his ramshackle collection of houses a little to the East of "the way to Captain Cooke's farm", as Lowell St. Was then known; and on the path to the Munroe house, which has since been called "Roe's" and "Scotland," road, and afterwards Woburn St. John lived over in the vicinity of the new school house, back of Belfry Hill. In 1735, John and others received a grant of land for their services in a fight, June 6, 1690, at Lampry Eel River, which was a place near Dover, N. H.

In the spring of that year, an expedition of French and Indians had made attacks on Salmon Falls and Casco Bay, and militia had been sent out against them; but all that I can find about Lampereel River is that on July 4/90, 8 or 9 men went out to work at Lampereel River, and were all killed,

but a boy who was carried off. Probably this was the attack referred to. In revenge for this attack, a small number of vessels were fitted out in the same spring, and captured Port Royal, now called Annapolis, Nova Scotia, without much more than a semblance of resistance.

And preparations were made at Boston for an attack on Quebec in 1690, by a fleet under Sr. Wm. Phipps; 36 vessels in all and 2000 men. There was also a land force under General Winthrop, to attack Montreal. Things went slowly. On October 5, Phipps arrived at Quebec. An attack was made but it was a failure.

Nathanial Bowman, Samuel Tidd and Matthew Bridge were in this expedition. This was the same Matthew Bridge who was in King Philip's War, the grandson of John Bridge. He probably lived over at Valley Field farm. Bowman lived down on the Bowman place, on the back road to Arlington Heights; and Sam Tidd lived up on the Tidd farm. They served from July to Nov. 21st.

In 1694, the Indians attacked Groton and killed and carried away from the vicinity some 40 persons. In August of the same year, they killed or captured 15 people at Billerica.

In 1696, 7 whites were killed and others taken prisoners at Andover. In 1697, the Indians killed between 20 - 30 at Lancaster. In 1698, the Indians fell on Haverhill and killed and took prisoner some 40 in all. Hannah Dustin, whose infant they had killed, was taken; and marched with them some 150 miles and was then told she would have to run the gauntlet. She rose in the night, and with the assistance of an old woman and a boy, tomahawked the Indians and brought back 10 scalps, and received great praise and a present of £50.

In 1704, in February, Deerfield was attacked and some 140 were killed and captured.

In 1706, Chelmsford, Sudbury, Groton and Exeter were attacked. In some fight in 1707, John Comee, who lived in what we call the Munroe Tavern, was killed; and Benjamin Muzzy, who lived in the old Muzzy house by the brook, was "captived", and remained a prisoner in Canada till 1710. He was the son of the first Benjamin Muzzy, "Nibour Muzzy", the trooper and pillar of the church. He was only 19 when taken, but came back and lived to the age of 74.

In 1708, Haverhill was attacked again, and 48 killed. The colony acted a good deal as some boys do, when they get a thrashing and turn round and pummel some smaller fellow. So, in revenge for this attack, they fitted out an expedition against Port Royal or Annapolis, Nova Scotia, in 1710, and took it, and this meant the conquest of Acadia, as there was no other strong place there.

In 1724, there had been a good deal of trouble with the Indians in Maine, especially the Norridgewocks, and their hostility was attributed to the malign efforts of Father Rasb, a missionary among them, a zealot and of great force of character. An expedition set out against them and Rasb was killed and many of the Norridgewocks.

The colonists of those days were "no frost-bitten angels." They were narrow, bigoted, prejudiced. They were frontier men, and led the same coarse, hard, crude life that frontier men have always led, as our country has gradually spread from the fringe of settlements on the Atlantic across the prairies and mountains to the Pacific. They had fought bears and wolves and Indians, and the Indians were by far the most dangerous. All Indians were looked upon as wild beasts to be destroyed. Just think of the massacres that I have but glanced at, and you will see what their hatred of In-

dians must have been. I have not mentioned the numerous heart-rending incidents connected with each massacre, which embittered them.

The bounty on wolves' heads was 20s. and in 1724 the bounty on Indian scalps was £100., and the hunt for Indian scalps became a profitable business.

The noted old song of Captain Lovewell's fight, begins:

"Of worthy Captain Lovewell now I sing,
How valiantly he served his country and his King."

John Lovewell was a successful scalp hunter of Dunstable. In March, 1725, he brought in 10 scalps to the Treasurer of the Colony, and was highly applauded. In April he started again with 46 men, some from Haverhill, Groton, Billerica and Concord. His party became reduced to 34, and were attacked May 7 at what is now Fryeburg, Maine. The fight was desperate. At night-fall the Indians drew off, not stopping to scalp the dead. 15 of his party reached home and the story of Lovewell's fight was sung at firesides for the next 50 years.

In 1725, the following men from Lexington, were in service, probably against the Maine Indians: Capt. Blanchard, John Pierce, Samuel Lawrence, Corporal John White, Thomas Stearns, Nat Kendall and Peter Read.

Blanchard, I fancy, lived up by Burlington. Lawrence and Kendall lived near Bedford, Stearns over by Watertown, and Pierce, I suppose, in the East Village. John White was also in the French War in 1757 and 60. He was born in 1699 and lived near the place where Cutler's lane comes into the Concord Turnpike, opposite the house now occupied by the Cutler's.

Lawrence and Read were in Captain Blanchard's company, and served during Sept. and Oct. 1725. Nat Kendall was in Capt. Eleazer Tyng's company and served from June 10 to Nov. 3rd, 1725.

Late in 1725, a treaty of peace was made with the Indians; and by 1726 the war here ceased, till King George's war was declared in 1744, and the French built the Fortress at Louisburg.

But in 1739 came the war with Spain, the object of which was to open the ports of Spanish America to British commerce. And in 1740 an expedition started against Cuba and Carthagena, under Admiral Vernon. The Colony was having one of its customary squabbles with the Governor, and did not send a large body of men; some 500, a large proportion from Middlesex, of whom only about 50 got back. They were promised bounties of land in Cuba. (purely a war for commerce by the English.)

The names of the following appear from Lexington: Gideon Powers, age 33, husbandman, enlisted July 14, 1740; Nathaniel Munroe, age 20, Joyner, enlisted May 20/40; Joshua Winship, age 25, Laborer, enlisted May 15/40; Ezekiel Kendall, age 24, Husbandman, enlisted July 15/40. They were in the company of Capt. John Prescott of Concord. I notice that among the soldiers was a company under Capt. Timothy Ruggles, which had many Indians in it. And among the few papers preserved, relating to this expedition, are a number of vouchers signed by the soldiers acknowledging the receipt of money. A large proportion of them are signed by simply making a mark, showing the general illiteracy of the day. (Powers probably lived in East Village, round Maple St.)

The expedition started Sept. 23, 1740, and after they got to Cuba, they began to be taken sick and were not well treated, in the fleet, and the provincials were scattered around in the different vessels.

As the names of these Lexington men do not further appear in our genealogical register, and as nine out of ten died of the yellow fever in this expedition, they probably died. Nathaniel Munroe, son of Corp. Joe, certainly died. Joshua Winship was the son of Ephraim Winship who lived

over on the great meadows, on a lane leading off from what is now Lowell St. His elder brother, Ephraim, was more fortunate than he, for though he had two scalps taken from his head, at New Marlborough, Maine, now the town of Windham, in 1756, he survived it.

Smollett, the novelist, was an assistant surgeon in the fleet; and in his novel of Roderick Random, he gives an account of how the fleet met at Jamaica and cruised around Hispaniola, looking for a French fleet, which went home; but which sent a message to Carthagena that gave the Spaniards ample time to prepare. The British attacked the forts and took half of them. And then rivalries and dissension arose between General Wentworth and Admiral Vernon and they dilly-dallied till the rainy season came, and the bilious fever, which is the same as the yellow fever, came and attacked the troops and swept off half of them, in two or three days. Then they drew off. The life in those vessels was miserable; crowded in the filthy hold, with no fresh provisions, and but little fresh water, and the corpses of the dead floating around in the water till they were devoured by the sharks.

John Winslow, of Marshfield, who commanded the Massachusetts forces in the French War in 1754-5, was a Captain in this expedition, and another Captain was Lawrence Washington, the elder brother of George Washington. He distinguished himself in an attack on the forts and afterwards named his estate Mount Vernon, after Admiral Vernon. His health was ruined by the fever and he died 10 years later, a young man.

Ezekiel Kendall lived somewhere in the North part of Lexington, South of Bedford Street.

If it had not been for the rivalries and stupidity of the English commanders in this expedition, the Gulf of Mexico would have become a British sea.

In 1744, King George's war began and the French built the fortress at Louisburg; and in 1745 an expedition was fitted out against it and it was taken. The rolls are lost. They were probably sent to England, as vouchers. And the names of those who served cannot be obtained. The only name I know is Isaac Cutler, who died at Cape Breton, Oct. 24, 1745. He probably lived on Weston Street, over by the foot of Mt. Tabor. You can still see traces of the cellar of his father's house.

(In the public record office, London, perhaps the rolls have been resurrected.)

In 1748, came the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle and by it Louisburg was given back to the French, much to the disgust of the Colonies. The taking of Louisburg was the only advantageous or glorious victory. It was won by Mass. Provincials and was traded off for some gain on the continent.

The French War from 1755 to 1763 demands a separate article.

WARS FROM KING PHILIP'S TO KING GEORGE'S

1755

AND LEXINGTON MEN IN THEM.

Copied from an article I wrote between
1890/1900

M. J. Canavan

133 W. Springfield St.
Boston.
1923

At the time of King Philip's war, the frontier towns were Haverhill, Chelmsford, Billerica, Concord and Sudbury. Groton and Lancaster lay outside the line, and the inhabitants were driven in by the Indians.

After Philip's war there was peace till the accession of William and Mary, 1689. Then began a series of wars with the French and Indians, which lasted, with some intermissions, for 70 years.

Matchlocks were discarded by a law of 1693, and the foot soldiers bore fire-locks and bandoliers, or a cartridge belt over the shoulder. Each soldier had a pound of powder, 3 pounds of bullets, 12 flints and a sword or cutlass. All men between 16 and 60 were liable to service; and the soldiers were to appear with hats and periwigs tied up in bags, and with hats briskly cocked.

James II was driven from England and received by France. War was declared between the two countries and lasted in Europe till 1697 when it was ended by the peace of Ryswick. The colonies were not allowed to remain neutral. The French did not want to fight. The King ordered it.

Then came in 1702, Queen Anne's war, as we called it, or the War of the Spanish Succession, as it was known in Europe. This was ended in 1713 by the Peace of Utrecht.

In 1744, began King George's War, or the war of the Austrian Succession, which was ended in 1748 by the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle.

For fifty years the French and English colonists in America fought to settle a question as to whether one or another worthless prince should inherit countries in which we had no interest. They were not allowed to remain at peace by the English government.

And the wars here did not cease as soon as they did in Europe, for the border warfare with the Indians, once started, continued. The Colonies did have peace between 1726 and 1744.

In 1689 the frontier ran along Portland, Scarborough, Saco, Wells, York, Amesbury, Haverhill, Andover, Dunstable, Chelmsford, Groton, Lancaster and Worcester.

The Iroquois fought on the English side, and the Algonquins against them. The province offered a bounty for scalps, at first £8 to £10, and later £50. Wild animals caused trouble, too. In 1690, the treasurer of Middlesex county paid bounties for 57 wolves. The heads were usually tacked up by the Church door.

Population was stationary or diminished. By 1706, one-third of the people of Maine had perished in the warfare. Garrison houses were maintained along the frontier, and scouts and militia were sent out. Several times the Indians made forays and murdered and scalped people within ten or fifteen miles of Lexington.

The old rhyme of

"Lieutenant John and Ensign Roe,
Sergeant George and Corporal Joe."

shows the military spirit that was rife here. Four brother officers. William was the Ensign. All of them, but John, probably lived near or with old William in his ramshackle collection of houses a little to the East of "the way to Captain Cooke's farm", as Lowell Street was called, and on the path to the Munroe's house, since known as"Roe's or Scotland road", and now Woburn Street.

John lived over near Malt Lane in the vicinity of the new schoolhouse. I asked J. F. Simonds if he did not remember the house and told him he ought to, that it was occupied abott the end of the 18th century. At first, he said "No." But the next time I saw him he said it came back to him that when he was a very little boy, there was the ruin of an old house and an old barn beyond the hill and near Malt lane. When the new school was built I heard that they came on traces of it.

In 1735, John Munroe and others received a grant for their services in a fight at Lamprey Eel river, June 6, 1690. Lampereel or Lampry Eel was a place near Dover, N.H. John Munroe's land was at Templeton. It is in the House Journal Nov. 1735. Samuel Locke was one of Captain Wiswell's soldiers and each soldier got 150 acres between Lancaster New Grant, Rutland and Lunenburgh.

That spring, French and Indians had attacked Salmon Falls and Casco Bay; and militia had been sent out against them. All I can find about "Lamersel River" is that on July 4th, 1690, eight or nine men went out to work there and were all killed but a boy who was carried off. There was a fight there under Captain Wiswell. John Munroe and Sam. Locke of Lexington were in it, and received grants and Locke got 150 acres. In revenge a small number of vessels were fitted out and captured Port Royal, now called Annapolis, Nova Scotia. There was little resistance.

Then came the attack on Quebec by a fleet under Sir William Phipps, 36 vessels and 2200 men. A force under General Winthrop was also to attack Montreal. Phipps did not reach Quebec till October 5th. The attack was a failure. It was grossly mismanaged. Nathaniel Bowman, Samuel Tidd and Matthew Bridge were in this expedition; the same Matthew who was in King

Philip's war, the grandson of John Bridge. He probably lived over at Valley Field farm. Bowman lived down on the Bowman place on the back road to Arlington Heights, and Sam Tidd lived up on the Tidd farm. They served from July to November 21st. Capt. Nat. Bowman and other Canada soldiers were given, 1735, a township 6 miles square north of Narraganssett No. 3.

In 1694, the Indians attacked Groton and killed and carried off some forty persons. In August of the same year they killed or captured fifteen people at Billerica.

In 1696, seven were killed and others taken prisoners at Andover. In 1697, twenty to thirty were killed at Lancaster. In 1698, Indians fell on Haverhill and killed and took prisoners, in all about forty. They caught a Tatar in Hannah Dustin, who killed 10 Indians while they slept and brought back ten scalps for which she received £50.

In 1704, in February, Deerfield was attacked and many killed. In 1706 Chelmsford, Sudbury, Groton and Exeter were attacked. In some fight in 1707, John Comee, perhaps the son of John Comee, who lived in what we call the old Munroe Tavern, was killed, and Benjamin Muzzy, the son of Benjamin Muzzy, who lived by Vine Brook, was captived, and remained a prisoner in Canada till 1710. He was 19 when taken, but came back and lived to be seventy-four, dying 1764. In 1730, Benjamin Muzzy of Sherburne, petitioned for a grant for his sufferings as captive and for his wounds and was given 200 acres near Wachusett.

Haverhill was attacked in 1708 and 48 were killed.

Then an expedition was fitted out against Port Royal (Annapolis, N.S.) It was captured and that meant the conquest of Acadia as there were no other strong places there. Josiah Fassett and other Port Royal soldiers were given a township 6 miles square on the road from Barlington to Lunenburgh.

In 1724, there had been trouble with the Indians of Maine, especially the Norridgewocks; and their hostility was attributed to the malign influences of Father Rasn, a missionary among them, a zealot of great force of character. Rasn was killed and also many of the Norridgewocks.

The colonists were rough frontiersmen who had suffered much from the savages. Just think of the massacres which I have but glanced at. They were embittered by many heart-rending incidents and looked on the Indians as worse than wild beasts.

The bounty on wolves' heads was 20s. In 1724 a bounty was offered for Indian scalps of £10., and the hunt for them became a profitable business.

John Lovewell was a successful scalp-hunter. There was a song of his exploits:

"Of worthy Captain Lovewell now I sing,
How valiantly he served his country and his King."

In March 1725, he brought in ten scalps to the treasurer of the colony and was highly applauded. In April he started again with forty-six men. Some were from Haverhill, Groton, Billerica and Concord. In 1725, the following men from Lexington were in service, probably against the Maine Indians.- Captain Blanchard, John Pierce, Samuel Lawrence, Corporal John White, Thomas Stearns, Nat. Kendall and Peter Read. Blanchard, I fance, lived up by Burlington; Lawrence and Kendall near Bedford, Stearns over by Watertown line and Pierce I fancy also over there.

John White was also in the French war of 1757 and 1760. He was born in 1699 and lived near the place where Cutler's lane comes into the Concord turnpike, opposite the house now occupied by the Cutlers. (1890)

Both the Reeds and the Kendalls came into town, I believe, from Woburn, and were relatives. I do not find Peter, but should think he was of the North part of the town.

Lawrence and Reed were in Captain Blanchard's company and served during September and October, 1725. Nat. Kendall was in Captain Eleazer Tyng's company, and served from June 10th to Nov. 3rd, 1725.

Late in 1725, a treaty of peace was made with the Indians, and by 1726 the war here ceased; till King George's war was declared in 1744, and the French built a fortress at Louisburg.

In 1739, however, England had a war with Spain, the object of which was to open the ports of Spanish America to British commerce; and in 1740, an expedition started against Cuba and Carthagena. The colony was having one of its squabbles with the governor, and fortunately did not send a large body of men: about five hundred, a large proportion from Middlesex, of whom only about fifty returned. They had been promised bounties and land in Cuba.

The names of the following persons appear as of Lexington:

Gideon Powers, age 33, husbandman, enlisted July 14, 1740

Nathaniel Munroe, age 20, Joyner, son of Joseph Munroe " May 20, 1740

Joshua Winship, age 25, Laborer, " May 15, 1740

Ezekiel Kendall, age 25, Husbandman, " July 15, 1740

They were in the company of John Prescott of Concord. I notice that among the soldiers was a company under Captain Timothy Ruggles which had many Indians in it. And among the few papers preserved are a number of vouchers signed by soldiers, acknowledging the receipt of money. A large proportion of them are signed by making a mark.

The expedition started Sept. 23rd, 1740. After they got to Cuba, they begun to be taken sick; the provincials were scattered around in different vessels and they were not well treated. As the names of these Lexington men do not further appear in the records, and as nine out of ten died of the yellow fever, who were on the ships, that was probably their fate. Nathaniel Munroe, who was the son of Corporal Joe certainly died there.

Joshua Winship was the son of Ephraim Winship, who lived over in the "Great Meadows" on a lane leading off from a "county road" which is now Lowell Street. His elder brother, Ephraim, was more fortunate, for though he had two scalps taken from his head at New Marlborough, Maine, now the town of Windham, in 1754, he survived it and died ten years later at the age of 57.

As to Gideon Powers, I know nothing. There was an Isaac Powers who owned the Jonathan Harrington estate at the corner of Maple Street. Gideon was perhaps his son.

Smollett, in "Roderick Random", gives an account of how the fleet met at Jamaica, looking for a French fleet which sailed home after sending a message to Carthagena that gave the Spaniards ample time to prepare. The British took half of the forts; and then rivalries and dissensions arose between General Wentworth and Admiral Vernon, and they dilly-dallied till the rainy season came, and the "bilious fever", which is the same as yellow fever, came and swept off half the troops in two or three days. Then the British withdrew. Smollett was an assistant surgeon, and he describes the wretched life in these vessels; how they were crowded in the filthy holds with no fresh provisions and but little fresh water; how the corpses of those who were thrown over, floated around till they were devoured by sharks

John Winslow of Marshfield, who commanded the Massachusetts forces in the French war in 1754, was a captain in this expedition. Another captain was Lawrence Washington, the elder brother of George Washington. He named his estate Mount Vernon after the admiral.

Ezekiel Kendall I think lived up Bedford way. If it had not been for the delays caused by the rivalries and stupidity of the English commanders, the Gulf of Mexico would have become a British sea.

In 1744, King George's war began and the French built the fortress at Louisburg. In 1745, an expedition was fitted out against it and it was taken. The muster rolls and other papers are lost. They were probably sent to England as vouchers; and the names of those who served cannot be obtained at the State House. If they were King's troops, the papers are probably still unrecorded in London. The only name I run across was that of Isaac Cutler, who probably lived over on Weston Street by the foot of Mt. Tabor. You can still see traces of a Cutler house there.

Note

In 1748, came the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle, and by it Louisburg was given back to the French, much to the disgust of the Colonies. That victory was the only one the British could be proud of. It was traded for some advantage to Holland, I believe.

The next trouble was the French war from 1755 to 1763.

M. J. Canavan.

A copy of something written about 1898.

Note: He died at Cape Breton, Oct. 24, 1745.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF THE FRENCH WAR IN THE MIDDLE OF THE 18TH CENTURY AND OF THE FRENCH "NEUTRALS" AND OTHER POOR PEOPLE IN LEXINGTON AT THAT TIME

Copied from an old Article written by me about 1898.

M. J. Canavan.

In 1754 there was excitement in the Province of Massachusetts, for Governor Shirley received word that the French were preparing to attack the Eastern settlements in Maine, and had built a fort at "the Carrying place" on the Kennebec. Eight hundred men were sent out against them under the command of John Winslow of Marshfield, the same John Winslow who had been a captain inthe attack on Carthagena in 1740. They built a fort which they called Fort Halifax, after Lord Halifax, in the Kennebec, where Waterville now is; and 500 of them went up the river to the "Carrying place" which still keeps it's name and is about half way between Skowhegan and the Forks of the Kennebec. Finding no French or Indian settlements there, they returned home.

The following men from Lexington were in this expedition in the company of Captain Fox of Littleton (See Archives at State House Vol. 93, p 131) Sergeant William Munroe, the son of William Munroe, the Blacksmith, who lived where the hay scales now are (1698). He was also in service in 1755, and apparently died in it, for his will was proved Oct. 13, 1755.

Joseph Locke, the great grandfather of Amos Locke, who lives on Hancock street, was in the same company. Joseph was then 55 years old, and lived over by Mr. Moody's place in the north part of the town. John and Jonathan Fiske were also in the company. They were sons of Dr. Robert Fiske, and lived in the house which Joseph F. Simonds now owns and occupies. John was then twenty-three years old. He had studied medicine but had never practised it. His brother Jonathan was then twenty years old.

Mr. Hudson, in his history, also mentions an Ephraim Fletcher. I did not run across the name, but anyone who carefully examines the Archives will probably find names both of us have overlooked.

By the treaty of Utrecht in 1713, the Province of Acadia had been ceded by the French to the English. Whether Acadia was a narrow strip on the sea-coast or embraced the whole of what is now Nova Scotia was an unsettled question.

The inhabitants were a French peasantry, ignorant, religious, and completely under the control of their priests; and as religion and politics in those days were inseparable, the missionaries by all the power of their divine authority sought to hold the Acadians true to France. The result was, that the Acadians would never take a full oath of allegiance to England. The farthest they would go was to promise to be neutral. Though they paid no taxes, and were subject to no military duties, yet they continually looked for France to recover the country, and helped the French and their Indian allies in their hostile expeditions to this country. They did this especially after the war of the Spanish Succession broke out, and in 1744, when French troops were sent into Acadia.

After the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748, the dispute as to what was Acadia broke out again. The English government demanded that the Acadians take the oath of allegiance; but they stubbornly insisted on being regarded as "neutrals", and refused to take the oath. And in the fights which followed between the English and the French and Indians, the Neutrals aided those of their own race and religion, and refused to bring supplies to the English forts.

On the 14th of February, 1755, Governor Shirley gave authority to John Winslow "to beat his drums through the Province for enlisting volunteers for His Majesty's service in a regiment to be raised."

Robert Rogers was one of the officers who had started out to beat his drums; but he went up into New Hampshire to enlist men, and thereby roused the wrath of Governor Benning Wentworth, who wrote peppery letters to Shirley, to which he replied that he had sent orders to Rogers to proceed directly to Portsmouth and take beating orders from Wentworth. The next letter of the New Hampshire governor ended with "As for Rogers, I am told he is recognized for a capital offence and is out of my reach."

Rogers was a rascal but a fine soldier; and his Rangers and their deeds were the talk of the army during the rest of the French war.

Captain Speakman, who served afterwards under Rogers in the "Rangers", beat his drums in Middlesex county. He was with Rogers then. Edward Everett in his oration in 1835, when the bones of the men killed on Lexington common were placed in Monument Hill, said that several men from the town enlisted from the town in that company, "the bones of one of whom at least are in this casket." Why could he not have given the man's name? When men know a fact they generally state it clearly. When they are uncertain they become verbose and vague.

There is a list of men in Spikeman's Company for whom he laid out money at Concord. I do not find the name of any Lexington martyr. Mr. Everett should have proclaimed it.

I copy the names of some who probably were of Lexington: James Blanchard, Uriah Holt, Phineas Parker, Solomon Wyman, Jeremiah Blanchard, Joshua Pierce. By Cutter's History of Arlington, I see that Nathan Cutter of Lexington was a member of Speakman's Company in 1755, and according to Lexington genealogies, Ebenezer Winship served in 1755 in this war. Uriah Holt appears later in the war as of Lexington. Possibly one

of these Blanchards was the Captain Blanchard who commanded Lexington men. According to Colonel Winslow's Journal, Officers were to take care to have their men fall down alongside Captain Rowe, and have all their men paid off. I suppose he meant at Munroe's Tavern in Concord. There was a John Robbins in the company, and there was a John Robbins in Lexington at that time. In July, 1755, he was sick at Fort Lawrence. In taking these names from the lists in the archives, there is some guesswork. The soldiers were largely obscure people. All these troops met in Boston in April and were given clothing, haversacks and blankets, but there were no muskets. They had a grand review on Boston common. The muskets arrived May 22nd, and they set sail. Speakman's company was in the sloop York.

About the only real fighting, was an attack made by French and Indians at Petitcodiac on three hundred men of Colonel Frye's regiment, to which Speakman's company belonged. About half the regiment were killed or wounded. The rest of the expedition was simply a walk-over.

It was decided that "the Neutrals" could be no longer tolerated and must be sent away. They were collected together to their great surprise, for they thought that the patience of the English would endure forever. In October some 3000 of them were taken from their homes; their houses and barns were burned, and the exiles were scattered among the colonies and became a charge on the public.

The campaign ended with bitterness on the part of the Provincials on account of the distinction made between the regulars and the provincial troops, and the superciliousness of the English; and because enlistments were made from the Provincials, which prevented Winslow from fulfilling his promise to his men to bring them back to their towns at the expiration of the year; a promise much relied on. There seem to have been forced enlistments.

Hutchinson says in his history, "About 1000 of the Acadians were brought to Boston at the Beginning of the winter, crowded to death. No provision was made in case the home government should refuse to take care of them." The Assembly was sitting and resolved that they should all be allowed to land and they were to be sent to such towns as a committee appointed for such purpose should think fit; and a law was passed to authorize the Justices of the Peace, Overseers of the Poor, etc., to employ them in labor, bind them out to service, and, in general, to provide for their support in like manner, as if they had been indigent inhabitants of the Province.

Many of these Acadians suffered great hardships, but in general they were treated with humanity. At first they fared well, because the towns to which they were sent, were to be reimbursed out of the Province treasury, and the Assembly was led to believe that the province would be repaid by the Crown. This expectation failed.

It was proposed to these people that they should settle on some of the unappropriated lands of the Province, and become British subjects; but they refused. They had an idea that the King of France would never make peace with England unless they were restored to their estates.

They refused to make a petition to be allowed to return home, as they were afraid of losing the favor of France, if they received compensation from England; and the restriction on free exercise of their religion was another bar to their settling down quietly. The people of New England were more tolerant than their ancestors. No exceptions were taken to prayers in the families of the Neutrals, and sometimes they assembled several families together; but the people would not consent to public exercise of religion by the Roman Catholic priests.

It was still by law a capital offence for Priests to come within the province. Many of these people went to Hispaniola, where in less than a year most of them died; others to Canada, where they were treated worse than in New England.

A family of these"French Neutrals" consisting of Auguste Heibert, his wife and boy, came to Lexington about the 1st of December, 1755. They were entertained by John Mason for three days in his house, the one near the Munroe station. John was a selectman; and Josiah Parker, Isaac Bowman and Benj. Smith ran about and made arrangements for their settlement. They lived at first with Joseph Fassett at what is now known as the Paige place up on the Bedford Road. It is now a part of Bedford, but was then in Lexington. The Heiberts lived there till April, 1756, and Fassett supplied them with pork, beef, firewood, sauce. Jonathan Lawrence, who lived up on the Bedford Road, supplied them with an iron pot and candles. Jonas Munroe, with cider; and David Cutler with a barrell of pork. On April 4, 1756, William Reed puts in a bill for 100 pounds of pork, a peck of salt, and a bushel and a half of turnips. Potatoes were little used till the present century (19th). In June, they were removed to the South part of the town and lived with John Bridge till October 13. In November, they were turned over to Hezikiah Smith, who lived on Smith Road, or Wiggle-waggle or Blossom street, whichever you may choose to call it. He received 16 s. 8 d. a week for their keep. (It is hard to tell what this would be in modern money. The New England money at that time did not have it's face value.)

Up to this time, the town fed them well, and paid good prices for their board, as it was supposed that England would pay the bills for these people, who had been thrust on the province to relieve the English in Nova Scotia. The province contributed to their support, but no money ever came from England.

Jonathan Raymond, who kept the Raymond tavern, was allowed a small bill for rum furnished the French family.

In January, 1757, they began to be regarded as paupers, and were so treated. The allowance became smaller. Jonas Parker was allowed to furnish them with a foot-wheel, Oct. 27, 1757, at 10s. 8 d. Sam Cutler, over at the foot of Mt. Tabor, tried boarding them for some months, being allowed to get what he could out of them in work; and they were allowed liberty to try to earn enough to get clothes.

In the spring of 1758 Benjamin Smith looked after them, and they were placed in a house belonging to Mr. Smith, where Nathaniel Adams had lived. This was probably near Blossom Street; and they were given the use of a garden plot back of the house. Small sums were allowed to Deacon Loring and Thaddeus Bowman for provisions furnished; and Joshua Bond who lived by the Munroe Tavern was allowed 7s. 8d. for making cloth for them. He was, of course, a weaver. David Munroe gets 4s.8d. for leather for the French boy. Probably he got a pair of breeches there. David had married an Abigail Wellington and very likely the leather was made at a tannery on Pleasant Street, where a lane leads over towards Blossom Street.

The dollar a week is continued to them and Sam. Bridge receives money for wood furnished and for twenty yards of linen and cotton cloth. The cotton, by the way, would have come from the West Indies. And they were shown where they could cut wood with which to buy shoes and shovels.

In February, 176 , the town received £26-16s-2d from the Province for their support, but on August 6, 1761, Thaddeus Bowman was ordered to transport the French family to Groton; and if they should return to Lexington, said Bowman was to draw a warrant and give it to a constable to warn them out of town.

In February, 1763, the town of Waltham sent in a bill for £5.14s.0d. for keeping the French neutrals who had been assigned to Lexington. The town of Groton had evidently turned them out. Thereupon, the selectmen met the Waltham selectmen and the town of Waltham agreed to keep them at 4s. per week, and the town of Lexington agreed to pay that sum for the support of Augustus Heibert and wife. The boy had probably grown up and been bound out by this time, for he does not figure in the account. He may have died.

In 1763, William Reed paid the town treasurer £4-0-0, which he received from Captain Abel Lawrence of Groton for use of the town of Lexington supporting the French "Huttorals," assigned to Groton, Townsend and Pepperel. So that, apparently, the selectmen had some good reasons for dropping them from Bowman's wagon into the town of Groton.

These "Neutrals" remained in Waltham till Aug. 27, 1764, and the two towns from time to time settle the account. Lexington paid £6-9-1 in final settlement, and 4s. as it's part for transporting the family to Boston, from whence they were to be sent back to their own country.

Jonas Stone, Ebenezer Smith, Robert Harrington and Benjamin Brown made several trips to Waltham for "numbering" these people, who left towards the end of 1764. For nine years these poor ignorant French catholics lived in a community which abhorred them and their practices. Possibly the son was bound out, and grew up a good Yankee hating the French and the pope.

Life in those days was simpler and harder. The common laborer of the present day enjoys all manner of luxuries, or, as he considers them, necessities, unknown to the people of the 18th century. He lives better, has good food and clothes.

All the travellers here in provincial times spoke of the beauty and delicate complexions of the young women but say it passed away early. Bad teeth were universal and were attributed to an inordinate use of molasses with all kinds of food. Anbury said they even ate it with greasy pork. If you have ever been in a lumber camp in Maine you will to this day see the men pouring the molasses on fried pork and pork fat and sopping it up with their bread. While the well-to-do had pewter, the general run of people ate off wooden plates, and used their jack-knives and often their fingers. But travellers give them the credit of being neat and clean. They say the women ruled the household. As for the houses, you can guess what they were, when you remember that the Reverend John Hancock, who was in good circumstances, lived a great part of his life in the ell of the Hancock House, till his rich son in 1735 (if that was the date), built the main part of the house on to it.

(I give this date as I found it in the somewhat illegible article from which I copy this, without looking up my notes. I do not know that it is correct. It may be 1734 or even 1731. I am not going to look it up at present.

A few years after I left Lexington, Mr. Robert P. Clapp asked me to write an article, and I did, and made a map of locations of farms and houses. Early in the article I said that the Buckman tavern was not of the 17th century, but was built by John Muzzy early in the 18th; and I spoke of Bishop Hancock's house being enlarged in 1734 or 1731. I do not remember which. When I had finished, a member of the Historical Society arose and instead of thanking me for the article, poured forth a diatribe against me as a faker, as a person who did not know, but who set forth absurd statements and pretensions without real knowledge; and cited my statement about the Hancock house, that I had stated that the main part was added in 1731 when everyone knew that it was done in 1734 (or vice-versa).

Now, I had simply relied upon my memory for an immaterial date, and as I had not thought of the subject for several years I had probably been wrong. But was it necessary to get up, and with great heat to denounce me as an imposter? I have no idea who the man was; still less, what caused his wrath. Perhaps he had written of the Buckman tavern as the old original Pelham mansion. Whatever roused him, his action was the most ill-mannered thing I ever experienced. Probably my article conflicted with something he had written, and caused his bile to overflow. It is a pity he had not a better bringing-up.

I put my Lexington notes and papers aside, and devoted myself to Boston history. And have lost many of my Lexington notes, as I cared nothing for them after the insult. I was indignant, and I still remain so, disgusted with a society where I received such abuse while trying to please.)

But to "return to our muttons." These early inhabitants made little money and had to scrimp to save. They knew how to hang on to a shilling when they got it.

Ante-nuptial agreements by which the wife made an agreement as to what she would take in place of dower were common, and showed what people in good condition considered a proper provision for a widow.

So did their wills. John Tidd in 1731 married Dorothy Stickney. He lived on the Tidd place and in comparison with most of his townsmen was a rich man; owning not only the Tidd farm, but land in half a dozen other towns. His will of 177[illegible] states what portion of his house his widow should occupy; and it is provided that his sons, John and Benjamin, should furnish her, annually, with six cords of wood, cut fit for the fire, at the front door of the house; two barrells of cider, one bushel of malt, six bushels

of Indian meal or corn, six bushels of rye, one hundred pounds of pork; seventy pounds of beef; four pounds of good wool, and ten pounds of flax. Notice that he says nothing of potatoes. They were used but little. And he provides malt for beer.

Job Lane of Bedford made the following ante-nuptial agreement in 1772 with Elizabeth Stickney, whom he is about to marry.

"Job Lane of Bedford, yeoman, and Elizabeth Stickney. Agreement: being about to enter into marriage covenant. If said Elizabeth should become my wife, and I should decease before her; then she shall have all the goods and apparel she shall bring to me; and also all the estate that may fall to her from her father's estate. And as long as she may remain my widow she shall have the sole use of one convenient room to dwell in, in the dwelling house that I shall die seized of, with the necessary accommodations thereof. And shall have found her by my heirs and assigns, three cords of good fire wood brought to her door; and three bushels of rye meal and two bushels of Indian mean annually; and one hundred weight of pork, pig pork yearly, and one pint of new milk every day, excepting in the three winter months; as long as she shall remain my widow, and no longer. And said Elizabeth releases all rights of dower."

By his will in 1793 he leaves her "in addition to what I have given by covenant before marriage; one cow to be well kept for her use, winter and summer, and two pounds of sheep's wool and four pounds of flax well swingled, to be delivered to her each year of her life, if she remains my widow." The rest of the devises show that he was a well-to-do man.

If this was what the blushing bride of the leading men of these towns looked forward to, as an ample provision in old age, what did the poor get?

The distress in the French war was great. Half a man's income went in taxes. Each town was very keen not to allow any outside paupers to be foisted on them; and warned and cautioned undesirable outsiders to leave town; and if they persisted, clapped them in the stocks. People who harbored strangers without getting permission were liable to a fine; and during the French war, notice was given that the fine would be enforced.

Poor old Charity Raymond and Sue Stone came on the town, and were sold out to the lowest bidder. Sue was almost always bourding over in "Kite-end" with Thomas Parker, Sam. Merriam or Sam Hastings, generally with some of the families over there connected with the Stones. Sam. Merriam agreed to board her for £4.17s.0d. "She remaining in a usial state of health" Jonas Pierce seemed to make a pair of shoes for her once a year. Linen was too fine for her to wear. They gave her tow and occasionally an old petticoat and a waistcoat. In 1761 they gave her aprons, caps and petticoats.

About this time, 1754 or 55, the widow Bolderson, who ventured to board with Benjamin and Ginger Porter Merriam at the "Viles house" opposite Woburn Street, without permission of the selectmen was warned out of town. They had little doubt as to her financial condition, as she had been warned out of Charlestown. She had been a Hobbs and was a relative of Thomas Nelson's wife.

Poor Betty Humble is also told to move on. Dickens would have liked that name. Jonas Clarke asks permission to take the same woman as servant into his house; and states that she is "not in affluent circumstances"

Cornelius Mead, of the North part of the town, I believe, died in 1759, leaving a widow, Hannah, and four small children. Hannah was a Hadley. One of the children was Benoni, three years old, when his father died; and

he seems to have always been an invalid. The widow Mead is put out to board with Thomas Hadley, perhaps her brother, at £4 a year so long as her sick boy shall live.

When there was a death in a New England village, if it happened at night, the meeting-house bell gave three strokes in the morning if a man died; twice for a woman, and once for a child. If the death took place in the daytime, the bell was struck at night-fall.

On the 4th day of August, 1766, the bell struck once indicating that little Benoni had passed away; and Joseph Tidd, who was the selectman from that part of the town made the arrangements for the funeral. Robert Harrington, the blacksmith, provided six pairs of gloves for the bearers, and superintended the funeral. John Buckman received 8s.6d. for making a coffin, and providing some rum and sugar for said funeral. Marrett Munroe received 2s. for digging a grave "for ye abovesaid child;" and Dr. Jos. Fiske received "5s.4d. for his tendence of said child in his sickness."

(Signed) M. J. Canavan

Copied from an article written about 1890 by me.

SOME OF THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED IN LEXINGTON THE NIGHT BEFORE APRIL 19th, 1775.

M.J.Canavan.

WHAT HAPPENED IN LEXINGTON THE NIGHT BEFORE THE FIGHT, APRIL 19, 1775.

On the night of April 18th, 1775, Hancock and Sam. Adams, as well as Mrs. Lydia Hancock and Dorothy Quincy were stopping with the Rev. Jonas Clarke in Lexington.

In a narrative of the battle published by Mr. Clarke in 1776, he wrote that he received intelligence between 12 and 1 o'clock that a body of troops had gone to Lechmere's point. The militia were ordered to meet. Between three and four o'clock our expresses returned, saying there was no appearance of troops, and the militia were dismissed, but to be within call of the drum. They received no notice of the approach till the troops were
Note 1 within a mile and a quarter of the common. At half past four the alarm guns were fired, the drum beaten and the militia collected.

In 1778 Paul Revere gave an account of that night, and wrote that
Note 2 when he arrived at Mr. Clarke's, all were abed and he roused them, saying that the British were coming out; that half an hour later Mr. Dawes arrived, and that after some talk and refreshment, they proceeded towards Concord.

Elias Phinney, in his story of the fight, says that on hearing about the British it was decided to alarm the country, and Hancock and Adams were persuaded to retire to the house of a Mr. Reed in the North part of
Note 3 the town; and Sergeant Munroe conducted both of them about two miles northward of the common.

Notes: 1. This would seem to be the time the British officers were coming to the common with Revere.

2. Say 12:30 or 12:45.

3. Wm. Munroe, Mr. Brown and Edmund Munroe went also. The Dawes Memorial says Mr. Clarke's son Jonas drove them over in his father's chaise. (It is said that Peter Clarke drove them over in Mr. Clarke's chaise.)

March 7, 1825, Colonel William Munroe (in 1775 Sergeant Munroe) testified on oath that after he had been informed by Solomon Brown that he had seen nine armed British officers riding up the road, he assembled a guard of eight men to protect Hancock and Adams. He tells of Revere coming at midnight and Dawes a little later, and that it was thought best Hancock and Adams should retire to a distant part of the town, to which Hancock reluctantly consented, saying, "If I had my musket I would never turn my back on these troops." "I conducted him to the north part of the town and returned
Note 1 to the meeting-house, where I arrived at about two o'clock in the morning." The alarm had been given on Revere's arrival and Munroe found Captain Parker and the company on the common.

Between daylight and sunrise, a little after five o'clock, they learned that the regulars were near; and Parker had the drum beaten, and Munroe paraded the company in two ranks. Then the British came on with a rush and fired.

To come back to Revere, he tells of riding almost to Concord, of being captured, of the talk with the British officers, of riding back with
Note 2 them and their fear on hearing the bell and guns. According to Mr. Clarke's statement in 1776 this took place at half past four when the British were only a mile off. I mean the ringing of the bells and the guns.

Then Revere, in 1798, goes on to say how he went across fields
Note 3 to Mr. Clarke's, and accompanied Hancock and Adams to Woburn; with them was Mr. Hancock's clerk, Mr. Lowell. When we got to the house where they were to stop, Mr. Lowell and I returned to Mr. Clarke's.

Notes: 1. Wm. took them over to Jim Reed's and got back about 1 P.M.

2. Elijah Sanderson testified that when he and Sol. Brown were taken, the officers took out a watch and said it was 2:15, and later came Revere and was taken. That was in Lincoln near Lexington.

3. Wm. Munroe says he went over to Jim Reed's and was back again at 2 o'clock.

That is, when the soldiers were less than a mile from the common, he went over with Hancock and Adams to Captain Jim Reed's and got back before
Note 1 the British arrived. He dreamed this. Sergeant Munroe testified he went over with them about midnight and returned to the common about two o'clock.

Revere said, "Mr. Lowell asked me to go to the tavern with him to
Note 2 get a trunk of papers belonging to Mr. Hancock . We went up chamber, and while we were getting the trunk saw the British very near upon full march. We hurried towards Mr. Clarke's house and passed through the militia. There were about fifty. When we got about a hundred yards from the meeting house the British troops appeared on both sides of it and I saw and heard a gun fired, then two guns, and then a roar of musketry, as we went off with the trunk."

In the N. E. Hist. & Gen. Reg. V. III-167, General Wm. H. Sumner tells of a conversation he had at a dinner party in 1832 with Hancock's widow, at that time the widow of Captain Scott. She spoke of Revere bringing the news at about twelve o'clock and telling them to look after themselves; of Hancock cleaning his gun all night, determined to go on the common and fight, and how Mr. Adams and Clarke dissuaded him. They heard
Note 3 that a British officer inquired where Clarke's tavern was, and went over to Burlington to the Rev. Mr. Jones'. The ladies remained at Mr. Clarke's and after the firing was over, received word to come in the carriage and bring the salmon which had been given to Mr. Hancock. When it was cooked and they were

Notes: 1. And Revere went toward Concord and was held up

2. Apparently, according to this he did not hear Hancock tell Lowell to get the trunk.

3. They went to Jones' not to Jim Reed's first. Hancock and Adams went to Jim Reed's first. Probably sent the ladies word to join them at the Jones-Marrett house, by Mr. Lowell.

Note 1 sitting down to dinner a man rushed in who had run away when he saw the British bayonets glistening on their return from Concord. He cried, "The British are coming. My wife is in eternity now." Hancock and Adams went to a swamp where they stayed till the alarm was over.

But the "regulars" did not return to Lexington till half past two in the afternoon. The Jones house was four miles from the common. The man would not have reached it before half past three or four. Rather late for a dinner in those days; especially for two men who had had nothing to eat.

Mr. Sewall, in his History of Woburn, has about the same story as she told it to him, and adds that Mr. Marrett conducted them to Amos Wyman's

Note 2 house in Billerica. They besought Mrs. Wyman to give them something to eat, as they had had neither breakfast nor dinner. She gave them some cold boiled salt pork, cold boiled potatoes and corn bread, the first bite they had had that day.

How came it that Madam Jones gave them nothing to eat? Ought Dorothy not to have eliminated herself? She said she was at Clarke's at the time of the firing, and a musket ball barely missed Lydia Hancock.

Sergeant William Munroe testified that he took Hancock and Adams over to Jim Reed's at midnight and got back to the common by two o'clock; yet Hudson places the time of their departure after the escape of Revere from the officers, and Elijah Sanderson saying a British officer took out his watch and said it was 2:15.

Notes: 1. I think it was breakfast for Hancock and he did not get it.

2. It is absurd to say they stayed all this time at Jones' without eating. My point is they were startled from their breakfast not from dinner. Dorothy perhaps had something to eat at Clarke's, so that it would be dinner for her.

Note Hudson: "It was decided that they should repair to Burlington; but being unwilling to retire at once and having a strong desire to witness whatever might occur, they at first retired to a hill southeast of Mr. Clarke's house, and there remained concealed till after the British had taken up their line of march for Concord;" (Hudson was deceived by what A. B. Muzzey said Gen. Chandler told him. Chandler was not there.) "when they retired to the house of a Mr. Reed in the borders of Burlington. Here they remained a short time when they were induced to retire further from the scene of danger and they were then conducted to the house of Madam Jones in Burlington."

He says Dorothy Quincy accompanied them. It was at this place in the wood next to Mr. Clarke's house that Mr. Adams on hearing the firing of the British troops made that memorable exclamation, "What a glorious day is this for America."

Now is not this a likely story? They hide near by and watch the fight till the British have departed, and all danger over, and then flee to Jim Reed's, two miles away. Like a man standing out in a storm till the rain has ceased and then running into the house to get out of the wet. They never think of going down to see who was killed in their defense but run away after the danger is past.

And who led them over to Jim Reed's? Did Sergeant Munroe after the fight was over, and the British gone, take them to the place of safety, and did Paul Revere after rescuing the trunk come up and go with them? Sergeant Munroe said he took them at midnight.

Hudson came honestly by the story. You can see how it was started by reading A. B. Muzzey's Battle of Lexington. General Chandler told it to him and could point out the very spot where Adams said, "What a glorious day is this for America." That settled it. The spot was marked.

One would suppose that Sam Adams would have gone down on the common after the British had departed.

John Eliot, who knew Adams, said in his Biographical Dictionary, "A friend of Mr. Adams spread the report that he spake with pleasure of the occurrence of the 19th of April." Of course he did. He had been telling them they had a right to drill. "It is a fine day," said he, walking in the fields after day had dawned. "Very pleasant," answered his companion, supposing him to be contemplating the sky. "I mean," he replied, "This day is a glorious day for America."

John Munroe lived over in "Scotland." He said he was roused about 2 o'clock in the morning by Francis Brown. (Deposition 1825.) Mrs. Gleason told me Francis Brown and Edmund Munroe were of the guard of 8 men and that Brown and Edmund Munroe went to escort Hancock and Adams, along with Wm. Munroe, over to Jim Reed's. That accords with William's statement that he went over before one and got back at two on the common. Apparently, Francis Brown went on from Jim Reed's down to Scotland and roused them about 2 A. M.

The accounts of what Hancock and Adams did the night before the battle are so inconsistent with each other and even in themselves that I venture to give the tale as I heard it from two persons.

One was James Russell Reed, the great grandson of Captain Jim Reed. Russell Reed's father was grown up before either of his grandparents died, and what happened that night and the next day was often discussed.

The other person from whom I got my information was Mrs. Charlotte (Brown) Gleason, the grand-daughter of Captain Francis Brown and of Captain Edmund Munroe. Her grandmother Brown was a sister of John Buckman. Both these grandmothers lived together and she with them . She was born in 1806. Grandmother Brown died in 1825. Grandmother Munroe in 1834. These two old

ladies talked continually about the Battle of Lexington and what their husbands did. Mrs. Gleason was a very bright old lady and I always found her recollections quite accurate.

According to her, when Sergeant William Munroe heard of the British officers riding up the road, he collected a guard of eight men to protect Hancock and Adams. His elder brother, Edmund, and Francis Brown, were of them.

When Revere brought word of the British coming out, Hancock and Adams were taken over to Captain Jim Reed's by Sergeant William Munroe. Edmund Munroe and Francis Brown accompanied them, and left them with Captain Jim. Whether others went, I do not know. She was telling what her relations did.

Mr. Russell Reed told me several times that Captain Jim and his wife were awakened in the middle of the night by the arrival of Hancock and Adams, with the information that the British were coming out; and that these gentlemen were to stay over night; and a salmon was handed to Mrs. Reed with instructions to have it ready for breakfast in the morning.

She said she got up very early in the morning to prepare the salmon, (and as she generally arose about day-break it would be what we consider very early) and began getting things in order for breakfast, when a man rushed in and said the regulars were coming out and were after Hancock and Adams and they must escape at once. Her guests dressed and departed, taking the salmon with them. They went to the Jones house in Burlington and were about to sit down to their breakfast of salmon, when a very excited man rushed in and said the British were killing everybody and were after them and that they must get out of the way.

Then they went to Wyman's on the edge of Burlington and Billerica and asked for something to eat as they had not had a bite that day, and were given some cold salt pork and cold potatoes in the skins.

I suppose it was after leaving the Jones house that Adams said, "What a glorious day for America," for he saw that the war was on, the British had attacked and that the other colonies would sympathize with and support Massachusetts.

This Reed story accords with William Munroe's statement that he went over to Reed's at midnight and got back to the common about two o'clock. And John Munroe's testimony in 1835 shows that Francis Brown must have gone from Jim Reed's down Lowell Street to that part of Lexington called Scotland where he roused the Munroes about two o'clock, according to the testimony of John Munroe.

I asked Mrs. Gleason if Edmund Munroe was in the fight on the common. "No, but Francis Brown was. Mr. Lowell, Hancock's secretary, had been told to get a trunk of papers which had been left at the Buckman Tavern. It was important the British should not seize them. Edmund was a close friend of John Buckman and he went with Lowell and Revere to make sure John gave up the trunk, to tell him it was all right to do so. They went upstairs, took the trunk and were carrying it up to the Clarke house. They had gone some way above the minute-men when the firing began. No, he was not in the fight on the common, but he took part later in the day."

I know that Buckman and Edmund Munroe were close friends. After John got married, Edmund boarded with him at the Munroe Tavern, and they carried on a potash business there, not very successfully. Edmund Munroe was a good soldier but a poor business man.

My impression is that, as Wm. Munroe deposed, Hancock and Adams went over to Jim Reed's before one o'clock.

The Dawes Memorial says that Jonas, the son of the Rev. Mr. Clarke, drove them over in the family chaise. Young Jonas was then 14 years and 5 months old.

Mrs. Gleason said Edmund Munroe and Francis Brown went over to Jim Reed's with Wm. Munroe and Hancock and Adams.

According to Wm. Munroe's deposition, "Hancock with reluctance consented, saying, that if he had his musket he would never turn his back upon the British." Elsewhere is the statement that Adams told him it was not for them to fight, that was for others; they were of the cabinet; and Hancock agreed to go. Hancock wanted to make a good showing before Dorothy.

Wm. Munroe continued, "I conducted them to the north part of the town, and returned to the meeting-house, arriving there at two in the morning; and found Parker's company paraded on the common. Between daylight and sunrise Captain Thaddeus Parker informed us the British were near. The drum beat and I paraded the company in two ranks North of the meeting-house."

And John Munroe, who lived over on Lowell Street, said he was roused about 2 o'clock by Francis Brown. Supposing they started about one o'clock, that would give Francis Brown just about the right amount of time to go over to Jim Reed's and then down Lowell Street to "Scotland" where John Munroe lived, by two.o'clock and wake up John Munroe.

J. Russell Reed told me several times the story his father told of what "Grandma", Jim Reed's wife, said. They lived over at their grist mill on Vine Brook. The mill was then in Lexington, but was later set off to Burlington. Fifty years ago Edward Reed ran the mill.

Grandma said she was waked up in the middle of the night by several men, who had brought over Hancock and Adams, and wanted them kept over night; and they handed her a salmon which she was to prepare for breakfast.

It seems most probable that if a salmon was presented to Hancock and Adams, Mr. Clarke would send it along with them, especially as he did not know what the Reeds would have to offer. It was for Hancock and Adams and they were the important people, not Dorothy.

Her grandson, James Reed, Russ. Reed's father, was a man before she died. The visit of Hancock and Adams was the great event of her life. She talked of it frequently. She told how she came down very early in the morning to get the salmon ready, and a man rushed in and said that a great body of Regulars had come after Hancock and Adams and that they must get out of the way and go further off. Her guests came down and were conducted to the Jones-Harrett house in Burlington, and someone carried the salmon. All this was her own immediate knowledge.

Then she told how Mrs. Jones had cooked the salmon and they were about to sit down to breakfast, when a man ran in and cried out that the British were killing off the people and were after Hancock and Adams; and they went over to Wyman's on the edge of Billerica and begged for something to eat as they had not had a bite that day; and were given some cold salt pork and unpealed potatoes. That would be what she heard, but it would be contemporary and a matter in which she was greatly interested, so that it is apt to be correct.

It was Parson Wm. Gordon, in his history, which was almost contemporaneous, who first told of Adams walking through the fields after day had dawned and saying, "It is a fine day." "yes, very pleasant," said his companion. "I mean", Adams replied, "This day is a glorious day for America." The day he had been waiting for for ten years.

Mrs. Reed used to end up her talk with the statement that "it was that Quincy girl that started the Revolution;" that the British knew that Hancock was going to marry her and came to Lexington to catch him. She was not so far out of the way, for Hancock was showing off before Dorothy, wishing he had a musket. "If he only had a musket he would not turn his back upon the British." And Adams quieting him by stating that this part was for others, not for them, they were of the cabinet. I believe I said that Adams told those in Clarke's the men had a right to be drawn up on the Common, but not to attack the British, but if attacked they had a right to resist.

The Lexington men would have got the idea they ought to line up on the common, not to attack, but with the right to resist an attack if made; to invite it, in fact.

Mrs. Gleason told me Hancock was anxious about some Provincial papers which were in a trunk upstairs in the Buckman tavern, and sent his secretary, Mr. Lowell, back from the Reed's to remove them. Edmund Munroe was a close friend of John Buckman, and he went with Lowell to assure John that it was right for him to take them, as John would do as Edmund advised him. I think Lowell was sent back when Hancock and Adams were roused very early in the morning. They got the trunk and were carrying it up to the Clarke house and were some little distance above the company on the common when the firing began.

Revere I suppose went down with them, but his story makes him too ubiquitous that night.

I presume that it was then that the message was delivered by Lowell to Mrs. Hancock and Dorothy, telling them to come over to the Jones house in the Hancock carriage; and that the salmon was prepared for breakfast, when

Hancock and Adams got a second scare, and were sent off to the Wyman's on the edge of Billerica, and that it was there, when Adams knew the fight was on, that he said, "What a glorious day for America."

Since we are talking about the Reed's, I had better tell a story of them, lest it be forgotten. Russell Reed told me and I have heard it also from others; from Albert Bryant, for one.

In the Burlington Vital Statistics it appears that "Venus Rowe, a slave born in the family of Swethern Reed and Mary Reed died January 22, 1844, supposed to be between 90 and 100 years old." The tradition is that Swethern Reed was met one day riding from Lexington to his mill. He had two saddle-bags. In one was a demijohn of rum and out of the other stuck the head of a little pickaninny about three years old, a present to him from some friend, from the name, probably a Munroe.

Slaves were not very common in New England. I should think not over a dozen at a time in Lexington; and the children were frequently given away. Slaves here were declared free at the end of the Revolution. As Venus grew old she was more of a burden than a help, and Jim Reed told her she was free and must look after herself. Venus refused to go. Jim demanded the town of Burlington support her. The town refused. Jim brought a suit against the town for supporting one of its paupers and lost. I don't know whether it is true or not, but it was told to me by both J. Russell Reed and Albert Bryant.

Russ Reed said Captain Jim was very "near."

Owing to Mr. Longfellow and Mr. Paul Revere, the latter gets too much credit for what he did that night. He did not go over to Jim Reed's with Hancock and Adams. He went on for Concord. So did Dawes. Neither of them got there. Young Mr. Prescott did get there and delivered the message.

Revere did not get back till about 4 o'clock or later. Possibly he went over to Jim Reed's then, but not with them. I doubt his going over. Young Lowell was sent back to get the trunk. Let us grant that Revere went down with Edmund Munroe and Mr. Lowell and got the trunk.

And I think you will find in Anbury's report an account of his seeing men drilling near a tavern and the captain telling them they had a right to drill even in the presence of the soldiers, but they were not to fire unless fired upon.

People wonder why the company drew up on the common. They knew Hancock and Adams expected them to do so, but that they were not to fire first.

As to the depositions: those of 1775 were conducted by members of the Prov. Council to show them as innocent lambs shot down. As to depositions of 1835, they told really what was done. You get nearest to truth in the 1775 depositions as to what occurred on the field.

LEXINGTON AT THE TIME OF THE BATTLE

by

M. J. Canavan

(Sometime at) 9 Park Street, Boston

Tel. Haym. 2010.

Lexington at the time of the battle.

As one rides out to Lexington in the train in half an hour its former remoteness from Boston seems strange, for the usual course of traffic was through Cambridge, Brookline, Roxbury and over the Neck to the town. Those who rode light would go by the way of Charlestown and over the ferry

In 1775 Lexington was only a village of five hundred inhabitants yet its relative importance was as great as it is to-day, in fact much greater.

Its roads were narrow and uneven, lined with fences, with no lawns near the houses but in their stead piggeries. The houses were small, of the old lean-to type and were generally unpainted. Some were plastered on the outside. The village had a rough, unkempt air. The Common had a growth of bushes on it on both sides of School-house Hill as the knoll was called on which the monument now stands. It was not surrounded by great elms. The ash by the Buckman tavern was there and in the centre of the common was a hollow oak stump eight feet high, big enough to hold three or four boys in a cavity in the top.

At the foot of the common was the meeting house facing down the main street with an oak tree at either end and two in front. On the South side of the common opposite the Wright house stood the belfry. West of Schoolhouse hill was the little school-house, and to the east of the knoll was a well with sweep and curb.

Around the common were five houses. There was the Buckman Tavern, built by John Muzzy between 1709 and 1714 and soon after used by him as a tavern and post-office. It gets its present name from John Buckman who had owned and occupied what is called the Munroe tavern. He married John

Munsey's grand-daughter and in this way came into possession of the place about 1769.

John Buckman kept a tavern and post-office there at the time of the Revolution. He was then a merry fellow of thirty, fond of a joke. Mr. E. P. Bliss in a paper on old taverns in Lexington tells of one he played on an old toper, who came to the inn with a few pennies to buy rum to take home. John said to him, "I suppose you would rather have that bottle of rum than anything else in the world," and was answered, "Nothing could make me give it up." The toper started off with his rum. The night was dark and he lived back on the Concord road where the houses were far apart. John Buckman snatched up a candle-stick which had a contrivance that snapped like the click of a pistol, and following him to a lonesome spot, clicked the candlestick and putting the cold metal to the neck of the terrified man, demanded all that he had and got the rum. That made a fine story for a few days, till John Buckman was arrested for highway robbery and fined fifty dollars. Then the toper wore a happy smile but John looked gloomy and held his tongue.

In this tavern the minute-men met the night before the fight. Revere and others took from it a chest of papers of the Provincial Congress just before the fight began. There are bullet holes in the front of the house. Someone fired from the front door at the British and they returned the fire. There are several trustworthy traditions in divers families as to who fired the shot.

In the afternoon two wounded gronadiers were carried into the Tavern and one of them died. He was one of the two British soldiers buried in the burying ground near the monument to Governor Eustis.

On Elm Street at the corner of Bedford Street (which did not then exist) is a residence known as the Gould house. This was occupied by a Jonathan Harrington and his family. When the British fired, his wife saw him fall and start up with blood flowing from his breast. He stretched out his hands to her, fell again, and crept towards the house. She ran out to meet him and he died at her feet.

A little to the West, along Elm Street are two great elms. Beneath them lived Dan Harrington, the blacksmith, and his shop was next to his house on the Northeast side. This house was torn down in 1876, soon after the centennial celebration. Dan's son, Levi, a boy of fifteen, was on the common watching the soldiers. He said the British fired first. After they had shot down the men, several went to his house and asked his mother for a pannikin that they might drink at the well. "Have no fear good woman; we will not harm you."

As the troops set out again on their march to Concord, Levi ran to the top of the hill and got another look at them. Mrs. Harrington's father, Robert Munroe, was killed in the fight, and was brought into the house. She went with her children over to Captain Jim Reed's in Burlington for safety.

When reinforcements met the retreating British, cannon were fired up the road. One shot struck the porch of Dan Harrington's house. Another went through the meeting house and ploughed into the ground between the church and the Harrington house. Dan kept the six pound ball in his shop.

Nearly a century before the fight, the land on the South side of the common had been bought by John Munroe. At first he resided back

of Belfry Hill but early in the eighteenth century bought a strip of Neighbor Muzzy that gave him frontage on the Common and built the house now occupied by Mr. Saville, but at the opening of the Revolution Marrett Munroe lived there with his son Nathan.

When the British fired at the Minute-men, Joseph Comee escaped from the meeting-house to Marrett Munroe's, but was shot in the arm as he entered, and several bullets pierced the clapboards by the door.

Along the road above Marrett Munroe's were horse sheds and between the location of Mr. Charles Hudson's house and the street was a stone pound for cattle.

Another son of John Munroe was William, born 1701. He occupied a little house where the hay-scales are, under the big elm next to the grocery store. He was a blacksmith with a shop near the easterly side of what is now called Clarke Street, but he had given up business some years before the fight, and his shop had been torn down or moved. Between his house and shop, were sheds for horses. This William Munroe, the blacksmith, died in 1776, and his house was sold to Joel Viles and some portion of it is in the rear part of the grocery shop. Some little damage was done this house by the British.

At the time of the fight the old John Munroe house back of Belfry hill was owned by John Buckman, but the widow of Jonas Munroe had her widow's thirds in it, and I think she was still living there. It stood as a ruin about 1815.

A lane which has developed into Clark street ran in towards this house and was called Malt Lane from a Munroe malt-house of an early date.

This was a queer old building, two sides of the first story were of stone, the front side of wood. It backed up against the ledge at Belfry Hill. No clapboards were used, but bevelled boards. The second story jutted out over the first, showing two feet of floor beams.

Formerly they turned barley into malt and smoked bacon and hams there, but as far back as 1820 it was used as a dwelling and lasted into the middle of the 19th century.

These were the buildings in the immediate vicinity of the common. On one map an Emerson house is represented at the corner of Clarke Street but Mr. Parker Emerson bought and built there after the Revolution, between 1790 and 1795.

Let us now go up Hancock Street, which was at first an Indian path, later the way by which one reached the trading post on the Shawshine and when the country was settled it became the road to Billerica.

On the North side of Hancock Street stands the old parsonage, occupied for many years by Bishop Hancock, so called, the grandfather of John Hancock, and he was followed by the Rev. Jonas Clark. The ell is the oldest part of the house and there Mr. Hancock reared quite a family. His son Thomas built on the main portion. Formerly this building stood on the South side of the road but was moved across a few years ago, and is now used as a museum of Lexington relics.

It was at this house that Dorothy Quincy was visiting when Hancock and Adams rode down from Concord and were also guests of Mr. Clark; and were aroused at midnight by Paul Revere. Here Hancock polished up his sword and talked of staying till Sam. Adams slapped him on the shoulder and said, "That is not our business. We belong to the cabinet."

We will now go down the main street below the common. In the early allotments of lands at Cambridge Farms, Herbert Pelham, a magistrate, a treasurer of Harvard College, and later a member of parliament, was given a farm of 600 acres in what is now the centre of Lexington. There was a dwelling house on the land in 1642. In 1693 Mr. Benjamin Muzzy bought 200 acres of the land, and it was this portion on which the dwelling house was situated. At the settlement of Mr. Muzzy's estate in 1732 he had a mansion house, barn, corn-house, corn-mill by his mill-pond, and it was the place where he had lived a number of years and was therefore probably the spot where the old Pelham house stood in 1642. There was also an orchard where the town-hall and the station are, and a sheep pasture which is now Merriam's hill.

This property came to Amos Muzzy and the house was on the West side of the lane or street leading in by the Keeley Institute. Near the road was the barn and further in the house. This house was moved to Waltham street some years ago and later to a street back of Belfry hill. Ben. Muzzy's mill-pond was on the South side of the main street, the dam coming to within a couple of feet of the road. This dam and corn-mill were in existence at the middle of the 18th century but had passed away by the 19th of April, 1775.

In the gray of the morning after Pitcairn and the marines had passed this house, Mrs. Muzzy started with her two children to go to a neighbor's. A foot-sore soldier came along as the sun was rising. He called out, "Good morning, madame, the King's troops are paying you an early visit this morning." "Come ye peaceably?" she asked. "Ah, madame, you have carried the joke rather too far with his Majesty."

On the return of the British, they entered the house, broke a large mirror, smashed a beaufet of valuable crockery and left the floor covered with stripes of blood. The soldiers also fired some bullets into the walls of the house.

On the South side of the road there were no buildings between the house of Will. Munroe, the blacksmith, and a house on the knoll west of the Baptist meeting-house, the second house West of the Church.

In 1764, William Muzzy married Lydia Reed of Charlestown. You must know that Charlestown was not at that time a little contracted portion of Boston, but was a great free independent town with very few inhabitants, but spreading all over Somerville; and its "Squash-end" so called, reached up along the South side of Mystic Pond and touched Woburn and Lexington. Lydia, I believe, came from "Squash End". William Muzzy died in 177[illegible], and

Note in a few months his widow conveyed the place to Jonathan Smith, a tanner, and soon after married him. In those days widows and widowers married as often as occasion offered. Jonathan Smith carried on his trade of tanner here for years. His tan-pits reached down to Vine brook. When the British came by on the retreat, they entered the house and did some damage.

On the North side of the road the next house below Amos Muzzy's was to the East of Vine Brook and a few rods back of the Plumer residence. When Cambridge Farms became a separate parish in 16[illegible] and Mr. Benjamin Estabrook was chosen minister, his father, Mr. Joseph Estabrook, the Concord minister, bought 20[illegible] acres of the Pelham farm, East of Vine Brook and North of the road. In 16[illegible], the "Inhabitants of the Farms" built a home for their pastor on his father's land, 42 feet long and 1[illegible] feet wide. This was the house which stood back of Plumer's and its frame was used in building the Plumer house.

Note: Wm. Muzzy bought it of John Lawrence and he of Fassett. The deeds are in the Green Books.

A Mr. Benjamin Estabrook occupied it at the time of the battle. Prince Estabrook, a slave, lived with him, and these two could have given David Harum points on horse trading. One day Ben was trying to sell a rather poor horse to a back countryman and Prince was seen walking around with tears in his eyes, calling out, "Oh, don't sell that horse, Massa. That's just the best horse we ever had." Prince got his freedom by enlisting in the Lexington Company under Captain Edmund Munroe. He served through the Revolution. Prince was courting a girl and was asked if she was handsome. "No, Massa, she ain't handsome. She's just 'stantial." She was very fat.

Matthew Mead, a farmer, tything man and constable, married in 1754. His house was a two-story lean-to and still exists in the four front rooms of the old part of the Russell house.

It is related that on the evening of April 18th, 1775, three British officers entered the house just as Mr. Mead's daughter, Rhoda, was taking the beans and brown bread from the oven. They assisted her and helped themselves to this good New England fare. The oven was in the room to the right of the entrance. The Mead family went over to Captain Jim Reed's at Burlington on the morning of the 19th.

Just below Mead's house was a knoll where the high school stands. The knoll was much higher at that time and the British planted a cannon on it and fired up the road.

There was no house on the North side of the road between the Mead house and the Raymond tavern.

On the South side of Main Street opposite Woburn Street, or Roe's Road or Scotland Road, was a house which of late years was called the Viles house. It was moved over to Woburn Street a few years ago. At the time

of the fight it belonged to Benjamin Merriam who lived there with his wife Ginger Porter Merriam. This house was entered by the British on their retreat and the house and contents were much injured.

Deacon Joseph Loring lived on the South side of the road on a shelf of land between the Hunt and Griffith houses to the East of the driveway to Hunt's. Deacon Loring was a tailor and his daughters had the same trade. He kept the communion service in his house and the girls hid it in a brush heap back of the house.

The Deacon in making a statement of his damages wrote that it was here that Lord Percy met the retreating troops, that none of the militia were near the buildings, but the British wantonly burned his large mansion house and barn seventy feet long and a corn barn, cider mill, mahogany tables, pewter, brass, furniture, hay and tools.

Young Jonathan Loring, though lame, was one of those who followed the British officers on the night of April 19th and was captured and freed as they rode back at two in the morning. He took part in the fight on the common.

The next house on the south side of the road was that of widow Lydia Mulliken, on the spot where Mr. Norris' residence stands. About 1750 Ebenezer Bowman was here and between the wall back of the tablet and Bloomfield Street were his barn and blacksmith's shop. It was built before Ebenezer got it, probably by David Comee.

Nathaniel Mulliken, a clockmaker, married Lydia Stone in 1791 and bought this estate of Bowman. He used the blacksmith's shop in making the metal parts of his clocks. He had heart disease and one day after carrying a pail of water from the well up to his house, sat down in a chair and died.

His widow and children were here at the time of the fight. If they had not been, the news of the British march would not have reached Concord when it did; for young Dr. Prescott was courting one of the girls and was riding home fast when he overtook Revere and Dawes. The latter were captured by the officers but Prescott escaped. Elijah Sanderson was courting the other and married her. After hearing that the men had been shot down on the common, Lydia Mulliken and the girls went over to the part of Lexington called Scotland and stopped with Robert Munroe's family.

Young Nat Mulliken was in the fight. He had made a wonderful clock with a musical attachment. It played secular tunes week days and a hymn tune Sundays. One of the pieces was "Malbrook." The soldiers burned the buildings and the clock was lost. The girls hid their silver in the wall back of the house, covering it with brush and it escaped. (Not in the well as report had it.)

Young John Mulliken was learning the cabinet trade up at Concord, how to be a "jiner", and he followed the troops down, and as he stood on the common, saw columns of smoke rising, and knew that his house was burning and the family would be homeless.

Tears were rolling down his cheeks when a cannon ball whizzed over his head and struck Dan Harrington's porch. Soon after, another crashed through the meeting-house and burrowed into the ground near him. He seemed to be in the fight, too, but he got off the common quickly, and in a couple of hours was standing with Nat looking at the smouldering ruins, mourning many things and in particular their wonderful clock. They were on Estabrook hill.

A week later, Nat received a note from Medford asking him to come over and see if he could identify the works of a Mulliken clock. He went there and found it was the clock they had supposed was burned. A soldier

had taken the works from the case and put them in his knapsack, but the pursuit and the day were both hot and he threw down his load by the road-side and in this way preserved the works for Nat.

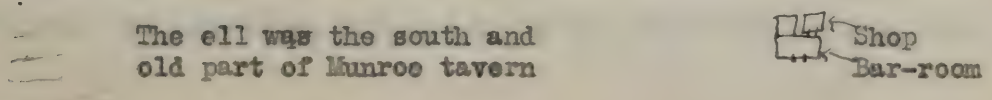
We do not appreciate the sadness and misery that came after the fight. The loss of relatives, the gutting and destruction of houses was terrible. I shall not allude to this further than to say that for years the fight was little mentioned, the memory of it was so dreadful. A granddaughter of John Mulliken told me that she had seen him and Elijah Sanderson talk of the fight in their old age and they rarely did so without becoming greatly excited, hands trembling and tears streaming down their cheeks.

A little below Mulliken's on the other side of the street was a house built early in the 18th century by Joseph Estabrook, but later known as the Raymond tavern. The house occupied by Mr. Neal is on the same foundation and contains the beams of the old tavern. 'Twas a two-story lean-to, unpainted, with long sheds for horses, a barn and cider-mill, a well and well-sweep. It was kept by a family of Raymonds who were well-to-do people when they came from Beverly to Lexington in the first half of the 18th century and bought Joseph Estabrook's house and land. For a while the tavern did a good business, but John Duckman was then keeping a shop at what is now called the Munroe Tavern, and his sale of dry and wet goods seems to have hurt trade, for when the widow Raymond died in 1773 the estate was insolvent. Her son, John Raymond, a cripple, had been trying to run the tavern for several years before. There is a story that in the latter days of this inn a traveller stopped there and asked for some gin. "I haven't any," said John, "Well, give me some rum." "I haven't any of that either." "Then give me a dinner." "We're out of meat." "What do you keep?" "Tavern," replied John.

Those were the days when people were imprisoned for debt and John was thrust into the poor debtor's prison from which he writes piteous letters to Judge Danforth: "Sir, I understand the airs are going to meet before your honour, to-day. I cannot come myself, but please, sir, stand as my friend, as there is nobody to speak for me at all and being confined here the airs take all the advantage they can of me, as there is nobody to object against what they say."

After lying some months in jail John was released and he and his family were living in this house at the time of the battle. The British apparently did not find anything there worth destroying. John was taking care of the Munroe tavern that day for Sergent William Munroe.

On the South side of the road, surrounded by elms, is the Munroe Tavern. The land is a portion of the old Pelham farm and in 1697 there was already a house and shop at this place. Early in the 18th century an addition was built to it, making the old portion an ell. In the middle of the century, John Buckman, a cabinet-maker, occupied the house, and after his death, his son John kept a country store here, a retailer of spirits he was. He went into the potash business with others and a potash works with copper boilers was built on the land, and Edmund Munroe was John's partner and used to collect ashes and make potash, but for some reason it did not pay. In 1775, John Buckman sold this place to William Munroe, who was by trade a cooper. He changed the building, enlarged it and kept tavern there for many years. The room on the right hand of the entrance was the bar-room. Back of that was a shop, a regular country store. At that time I believe it was not built into the house but butted up against it.



Sargeant William Munroe did not like the appearance of the mounted officers the night of April 18th, and with eight men kept watch at the Clarke house. He accompanied Adams and Hancock to Captain Jim Reed's in Burlington just over the border of Lexington and returned to the meeting house at two in the morning and took part in the fight.

It was at this tavern that Lord Percy halted when his troops met the exhausted soldiers. This was a hospital where they dressed their wounds. The men got hold of liquor in the shop and the officers smashed the barrels. After the officers left, the men became infuriated. Poor unlucky John Raymond had been serving them, and as he tried to escape from the bar-room to the shop they shot him in the doorway. They endeavored to burn the house but the fire was extinguished. In front of the inn between two elms swung the sign, a punch bowl with the words, "Entertainment" above, and beneath, "By Wm. Munroe."

Just above the Munroe tavern was the little house and shop of Joshua Bond, a harness maker. It was between Mr. Tyler's house and Mr. Sherburne's driveway. An attempt was made to burn this place but the walls were not consumed and the house was repaired and three Bond girls, tailoresses, lived there early in the 19th century.

Although Joshua Bond occupied this house, I think there is nothing to show that he ever owned it and it is not unlikely that Joshua's house was the potash works of Edmund Munroe and John Buckman altered over. They gave up the business some years before the fight. William Munroe, son of Jonas, said he never understood about that house. The Bonds occupied it but it seemed to belong to his grandfather.

To the east of the Munroe Tavern is the Sanderson place. In 1775, this long, low house was occupied by Samuel Sanderson and his wife,

Mary Munroe Sanderson, to whom he was married in 1772. With them was his brother Elijah. These two Sandersons were cabinet makers or joiners. At a later period, Elijah lived in Salem and from time to time sent ventures of cabinet work to France and Spain where they sold well, for the old New England joiner was an artist and made all kinds of woodwork from pine coffins to the most beautiful desks and side-boards. I have seen some of Elijah's cabinet work as fresh and handsome as if finished yesterday. E. A. Mulliken has it.

Elijah Sanderson was twenty-four years old. He saw the British officers in blue wrappers ride by in the evening of April 18th, and when the wind blew caught sight of their uniforms beneath. With Solomon Brown and Jonathan Loring he followed them on horse-back, and fell into a trap and was captured. Still later, Paul Revere was also caught. They were released at two in the morning. Elijah's brother had his gun, so that he was only a spectator of the fight. In the afternoon, he viewed the scene from Estabrook's hill. That is the hill to the North of Woburn street. He said, after the reinforcements came out they halted and set fire to Deacon Loring's barn and house, then to Widow Mulliken's house, then to Nat. Mulliken's shop, then to the house and shop of Joshua Bond.

Mr. George O. Smith, in an article read before the Lexington Historical Society, gave some interesting facts about Samuel Sanderson and his wife Mary, or, as she was called in her old age, "grandma", or "old lady Sanderson." She was the daughter of one of the Munroe's in that part of Lexington known as Scotland and was born in 1743. She married Sanderson in 1772. He worked at his trade as a "jiner" in the basement of the house, and his wife often held a candle as he made a coffin. When they heard that

the British were coming he piloted his wife over to her father's, carrying his babe, and accompanied by a little girl who was then at their house.

Over at Scotland they found the mother getting breakfast and the brothers did not at first believe the report. After the British retreated Mary returned home and found many things had been stolen. Her cow (which was a good part of her marriage portion) had been killed; and a wounded British soldier was stowed away in her bed. She cried out, "I won't hae him there. Why didn't you knock him the head?" But the town authorities insisted he must be taken care of. Those who lived in that part of Lexington called Scotland had a little of the Scottish accent and Mrs. Sanderson kept it all her life. The soldier begged for tea but she refused; "What for should I gae him tae for? He shall hae nane." When you think of it, a request for tea of a Massachusetts person was an inconsiderate demand at that time.

She said, "The Satanish critters stole and destroyed everything in the house and didn't leave rags enough to dress the wounds of their own soldiers."

The wounded man was so afraid of her that he refused to eat or drink unless the food was tasted by some of the family.

"Well, grandma, what did you give him?"

"Oh, I gae him all he wanted and every now and then I gave him a devilish honing."

The Sandersons moved to Lancaster in 1776 but after her husband's death she returned to Lexington and died there in 1852 at the age of 104. She read the Bible, Watt's Hymns and the Farmer's Almanac. One day the minister called and she slipped the almanac under the rug, saying, "I wouldna read sich a book on the Lord's Day and I wouldna give him cause to think that I might."

In Lock's Book of the Munroes is a statement by a gentleman who wrote of her in 1851. He said she had wit. He complimented her on the remarkable fairness of her skin, and said she must have been very pretty. "Ay;" she replied, laughingly, "It was lucky for you young man you were not about in those days."

On the north side of the road, as the path leads off to Munroe's station, you pass the house which John Mason built about 1698. He and his boys were tanners and during the 18th century there were tan pits on the West side of his house. The mill-stone with which they ground their bark is broken, one part serves as a step to the Lexington Golf Club house, and the other half is in front of Mr. James P. Munroe's residence.

John Mason's land was made up of a strip from the Pelham farm and another strip from the Golden Moore farm. The dividing line between these two old farms was very close to a post which stood on Mr. Tower's wall at the turn of the road, and the 7-mile line is there too. The house was on Pelham land but below the station is low land known as Mason's hollow. It was formerly much more of a hollow than at present. The road made a great dip there and was boggy. This Mason's hollow was a part of the old Golden Moore farm. The Golden Moore farm ran up to the 7th mile line.

At the time of the battle of Lexington, the head of the family was a John Mason, seventy-five years old. His sons, Joseph and Daniel, were both in the fight. Joseph was the school-master and Daniel a simple, inoffensive, mild-tempered man with the most unbounded admiration for his learned elder brother. "My brother Joe is the smartest man in these United States. He was the first man that discovered the Northern Lights in America."

In his old age, he lived over on Woburn Street by the crossing. He was very poor though he made a little money by bottoming chairs. As he walked down town with his basket on his arm, people were apt to call uncle Daniel into the house and put something in the basket. He carried a hoe-handle for a staff, and wore a broad Quaker hat, and also his apron, then common to all workmen. He was a sunny, innocent, shiftless old fellow, but of so sweet and lovable a nature that even the boys did not poke fun at him, though he gave them cause sometimes. But the girls, the mischievous girls, they concocted a scheme by which he got married without courtship or proposal. He told the story to that old joker, Albert Bryant, who, when a boy used to drive his cows to pasture by uncle Daniel's lot, and these two children, one of twelve and the other nearly eighty, would sit under the trees and colloguo.

One day the old man told Bryant how he got married. "I was over forty years old and going along the road I met three young ladies and one of them asked, "Why don't you get married uncle Daniel?" "Why," I said, "Who would have me? Nobody's have me." "The widow Cheney would jump at the chance." I told her I should not dare to ask Mrs. Cheney to become my wife. "We can tell you how to get her without asking. You go to the town clerk and get cried or published next Sunday."

Uncle Daniel thought he would make the attempt, and next Sunday the announcement of his intention of marriage to Mrs. Cheney was made by the town clerk much to her surprise. She sent Daniel a note asking him to call; he said it was with fear and trembling he went, not knowing what his reception would be. She very kindly asked him if he knew how the intention came to be published, and he made full confession. After hearing it she asked him what he intended to do next. He told her he would let her decide what was best, and she finally said, "If you promise me never to

do so again I will marry you." Uncle Daniel promised and got a wife without asking, and a good one. Though very poor their house was neat as wax and they were devoted to each other.

Early in the 18th century, 1714, Robert Harrington bought land of David Mead, who bought of Emerson, on the South side of the road below Middle Street, or, as it was then called, "the Way to Bridge's farm."

He was a blacksmith and was succeeded by his son Robert, who carried on the same business in the latter part of the century. At the present time, we are apt to think of a blacksmith as a shoer of horses, but formerly they made locks, nails, andirons, guns, cranes; the trade covered a wide field.

He lived in the house which some years ago belonged to P. P. Pierce. It is a little above Maple Street opposite the Lockwood place. His shop was to the West of his house towards Middle Street.

Dan Harrington, who lived at the head of the common, was a son of Robert. In the Middlesex Registry is a deed of land in the south part of the town, and one of the bounds in this deed is "a stump and pile of stones near the place where Dan. Harrington licked Bill Smith." It was signed in the presence of Robert Harrington, Justice of the Peace, and we can imagine his triumph and the treating after he got this victory on record. (In one of the Green Books.)

There was another son, Abijah, a boy of fourteen at the time of the fight, and Mrs. Harrington sent him up the street to see what would happen. Solomon Brown showed him where he fired into a crowd of soldiers and there was blood on the ground, and he saw Deacon Benjamin Brown take a straggling soldier prisoner a few rods from the meeting house.

When the British returned from Concord they did some little damage to Robert Harrington's house.

On the North side of the highway, the next residence below the Mason place was the house or houses of Deacon Benjamin Brown. A good many years ago there were two houses about where Mr. George Wheaton's house stands. One was the red house which some years ago was removed to the East side of Woburn Street near the crossing. The other was a little unpainted lean-to close by. It was very old and may have been the house built by a former owner of the land, Isaac Powers, about 1713. The red house was also of an early period. Deacon Benjamin's father lived in one of these houses and conveyed it to him sometime before the Revolution.

At the time of the fight, Deacon Benjamin was living in one of these houses with his son Solomon. On the night of the 18th, Solomon was returning from Boston in a team, and was annoyed by men in blue wraps who rode sometimes ahead, sometimes behind him. With Sanderson and Loring he followed them, was captured and later set free. He fired at the British from behind Buckman's stone-wall and boasted that he was the first American to fire a gun in the Revolution. (I think it very likely he was the first man to fire on either side.)

Benjamin Brown's house was entered on the retreat of the British and some damage done.

In the middle of the 18th century there were two houses belonging to the Brown family in the meadows near Munroe's brook at the foot of the hill formerly owned by Mr. Kennison, and a cartway ran in to it by Deacon Brown's house.

One of these houses was standing April 19th, 1775, and was occupied by Francis Brown. His widow said that on the day of the fight this house was full of women and children weeping, and that they hid their silver and mirrors and many other things in Russell's swamp which was beyond the brook.

In the afternoon, she saw the bayonets flash as the flankers went over "Hanker's hill." The term is familiar to the older men of Lexington, but I doubt if many know whence the name comes. The Munn place is generally regarded as "Hankers", though some extend the name to the hill beyond. In 1734 a brother of "Bishop Hancock" bought seven acres where the Munns live and owned them a few years. There was what might be called a boom in Lexington land at that time, and there were many transfers; possibly on account of the talk of starting a land bank. Though Mr. Hancock did not build there and the land soon passed away from him, yet his name has remained fixed to it for two hundred years.

Maple Street is modern, but the Southern portion existed as a town way from a very early date. It was known in the 17th century as the way to Russell's farm, and followed the general direction of Maple Street till you pass beyond the railroad and approach the brook. There a lane turns off to the left, a very pretty lane, too, which follows up the brook to a stone slab that served for a bridge, and near by were the two little houses before mentioned, one of which was still occupied by Francis Brown.

On the North side of the Concord road the next house below Deacon Brown's was that of Jonathan Harrington on the East side of Maple Street. The house in which Jonathan Harrington lived was an old, low lean-to, plastered on the outside, and in the early part of the nineteenth century it was painted yellow.

There was a Jonathan Harrington, Junior, at the time of the fight, a boy of seventeen, who had learned to play the fife the year before; and the minute-men had drilled and marched hither and thither during the winter months to the rub-a-dub of the drum and the "vile squeakings of the wry-necked fife." His mother roused him in the middle of the night and cried, "Get up, Jonathan: the regulars are coming and something must be

done." He took his weapons, his fife and light gun, and went to the Common. When the British fired the drummer and he jumped over Buckman's wall and got out of range. The drummer's hand was bleeding and they saw that the end of his little finger was shot off.

Mrs. Harrington during the morning went with the children down a lane back of the house and across the meadows to an old place on "Smock Farm", so-called early in the century by Captain Wooton, an ex-mariner, because it had come to him by marriage.

When the family returned in the afternoon, a soldier ran out from a back room. He was shot at, captured and remained several years with them. The British did a great deal of damage to this house. They smashed all the windows, destroyed an eight-day clock, carried off clothes, boots, moose-skins and many other articles.

Near this house, by the roadside, is one of the most beautiful elms in the country. Jonathan Harrington's daughter Rebecca married Captain Edmund Munroe and from time to time gave the following account of this tree to her grandchildren, Francis Brown and Mrs. Gleason.

In the early days, on account of the lack of bridges over the Charles, it was further from Lexington to Boston than to Salem, and the latter town was the trading place for the village people. Jonathan Harrington had gone there on some business and was driving his ox-team back over the old Concord and Salem road. Flies annoyed the oxen and he pulled up an elm shoot to brush them away. When he got home he noticed it was well shaped and set the green shoot out by his house and it grew to be this magnificent and graceful tree. Mrs. Munroe said he planted this tree when she was about three years old, and she was born in 1751.

I am aware that there is a corrupt variation of this tradition, which asserts that Robert Harrington owned this land and planted this tree in 1732. Believe me, mine is the only true, correct and Simon-pure tradition. Little Rebecca Harrington grew up with the tree, married and had children and grand-children to whom she told the true story. Robert never owned the land, his son Jonathan bought it.

If you still cling to the other version, go to the Middlesex Deeds, and you shall see that Robert Harrington never owned this land, nor did any Harrington possess it till Jonathan in February, 1753, bought it of Cutler, who bought it of Hall, who bought it of Emerson, who bought it of Adams (not Adam), who bought of Colden Moore, to whom it was granted by the Inhabitants of Cambridge, who got it of Squaw Sachem, who got it of Nanepashmet, who got it from some other old sachem way back in the bow and arrow and the flint ages.

Jonathan Harrington had purchased the place with his own pounds, shillings and pence, and was beautifying it, doing some early landscape gardening.

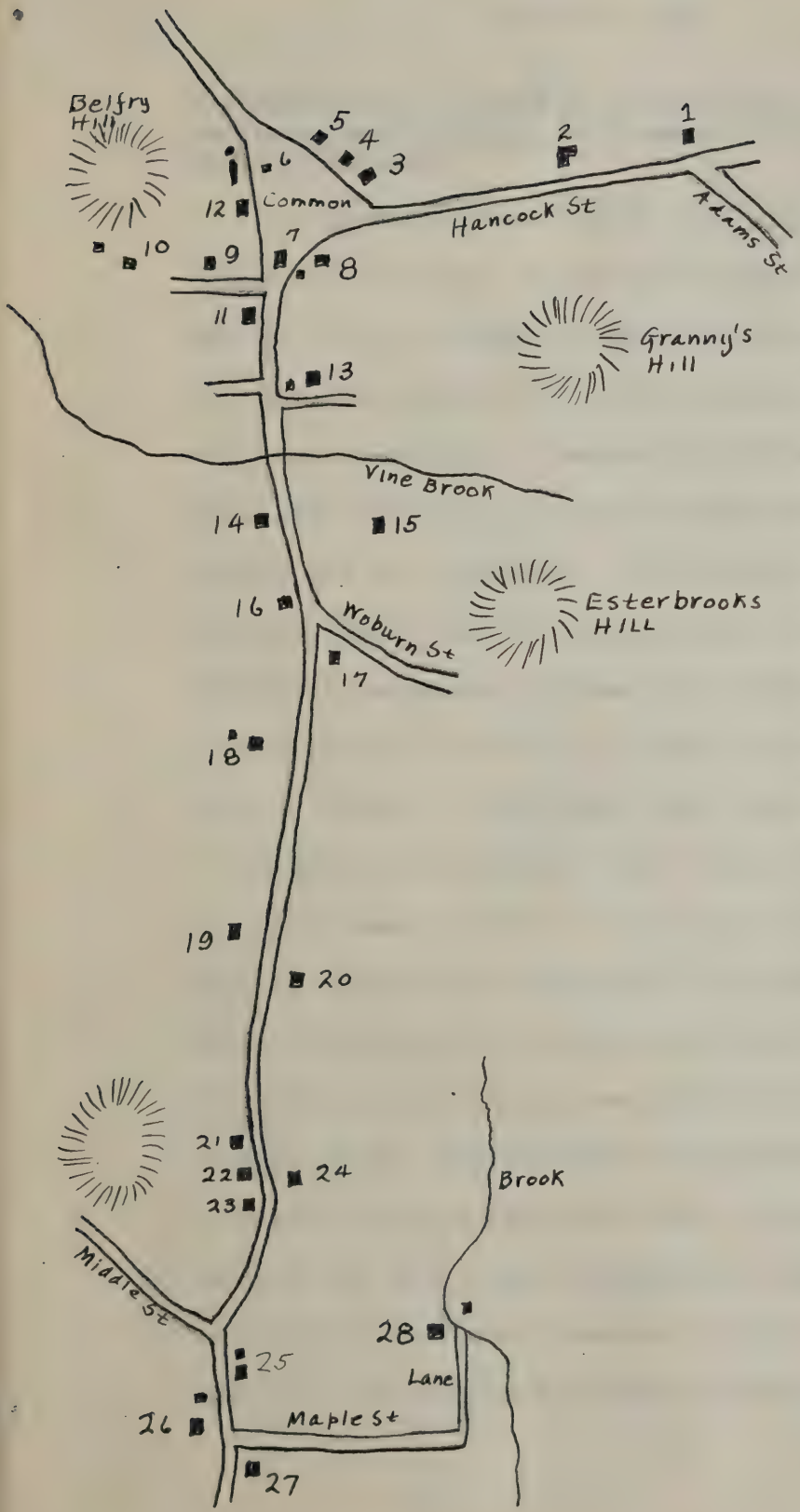
"By the jumping gingerbread", I hear him say, "That will be a fine tree some day, little Becky," never dreaming that the time will come when someone will say he got this place by inheritance and that his father and not he planted this great wide-spreading elm.

'Tis a pleasant place to rest and we will give up further pursuit of the red-coats.

M. J. Canavan.


Entertainment
By Wm Munroe
1775





1 Jonas Parker
2 Rev. Mr. Clarke
3 Jonathan Harrington
4 Dan Harrington shop
5 Dan Harrington House
6 School
7 Meeting house
8 Buckman Tavern
9 Malt House
10 Jonas Munroe house
11 Wm. Munroe, blacksmith
12 Marrett Munroe
13 Amos Muzzy
14 Jonathan Smith
15 Benj. Estabrooks
16 Benj. Merriam
17 Matthew Mead
18 J. Loring
19 Lydia Mulliken
20 Raymond Tavern
21 Joshua Bond
22 Munroe Tavern
24 John Mason
25 Dea. Benj. Brown
26 Robt. Harrington
27 Jonathan Harrington
28 Francis Brown
23 Sanderson Place



ACCOUNT SENT BY GENERAL GAGE TO GOVERNOR TRUMBULL OF CONNECTICUT

April 29, 1775.

A circumstantial Account of an Attack that happened on the 19th April, 1775, on His Majesty's Troops, by a number of the People of the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

On Tuesday the 18th of April, about half-past ten at night, Lieutenant Colonel Smith, of the Tenth Regiment, embarked from the Common, at Boston, with the Grenadiers and Light-Infantry of the Troops there, and landed on the opposite side; from whence he began his march towards Concord, where he was ordered to destroy a magazine of military stores, deposited there for the use of an Army to be assembled in order to act against His Majesty and his Government. The Colonel called his officers together, and gave orders that the Troops should not fire unless fired upon; and after marching a few miles, detached six Companies of Light-Infantry, under the command of Major Pitcairn, to take possession of two bridges on the other side of Concord. Soon after, they heard many signal guns, and the ringing of alarm-bells repeatedly, which convinced them that the country was rising to oppose them, and that it was a preconcerted scheme to oppose the King's Troops, whenever there should be a favourable opportunity for it. About three o'clock the next morning, the Troops being advanced within two miles of Lexington, intelligence was received that about five hundred men in arms were assembled, and determined to oppose the King's Troops; and on Major Pitcairn's galloping up to the head of the advanced Companies, two officers informed him that a man (advanced from those that were assembled) had presented his musket, and attempted to shoot them, but the piece flashed in the pan. On this the Major gave directions to the Troops to move forward,

but on no account to fire, nor even to attempt it without orders. When they arrived at the end of the village, they observed about two hundred armed men drawn up on a green, and when the Troops came within one hundred yards of them, they began to file off towards some stone walls on their right flank; the Light Infantry observing this, ran after them. The Major instantly called to the soldiers not to fire, but to surround and disarm them. Some of them who had jumped over a wall, then fired four or five shot at the Troops, wounded a man of the Tenth Regiment, and the Major's horse in two places, and at the same time several shots were fired from a meeting-house on the left. Upon this, without any order or regularity, the Light-Infantry began a scattered fire, and killed several of the country people, but were silenced as soon as the authority of their officers could make them.

After this, Colonel Smith marched up with the remainder of the detachment, and the whole body proceeded to Concord, where they arrived about nine o'clock, without anything further happening; but vast numbers of armed people were seen assembling on all the heights. While Colonel Smith, with the Grenadiers and part of the Light-Infantry, remained at Concord to search for cannon, etc., there, he detached Captain Parsons, with six light companies, to secure a bridge at some distance from Concord, and to proceed from thence to certain houses, where it was supposed there was cannon and ammunition. Captain Parsons, in pursuance of these orders, posted three companies at the bridge, and on some heights near it, under the command of Captain Laurie, of the Forty-Third Regiment, and with the remainder went and destroyed some cannon-wheels, powder and ball. The people still continued increasing on the heights, and in about an hour after, a large body of them began to move towards the bridge. The light companies of the Fourth and

Tenth then descended and joined Captain Laurie. The people continued to advance in great numbers, and fired upon the King's Troops; killed three men, wounded four officers, one sergeant, and four privates; upon which (after returning the fire) Captain Laurie and his officers thought it prudent to retreat towards the main body at Concord, and were soon joined by two companies of Grenadiers. When Captain Parsons returned with the three Companies over the bridge, they observed three soldiers on the ground, one of them scalped, his head much mangled, and his ears cut off, though not quite dead -- a sight which struck the soldiers with horror . Captain Parsons marched on and joined the main body, who were only waiting for his coming up to march back to Boston. Colonel Smith had executed his orders, without opposition, by destroying all the military stores he could find. Both the Colonel and Major Pitcairn having taken all possible pains to convince the inhabitants that no injury was intended them, and that if they opened their doors when required, to search for said stores, not the slightest mischief should be done. Neither had any of the people the least occasion to complain; but they were sulky, and one of them even struck Major Pitcairn.

Except upon Captain Laurie at the bridge, no hostilities happened from the affair at Lexington, until the Troops began their march back. As soon as the Troops had got out of the Town of Concord, they received a heavy fire on them from all sides -- from walls, fences, houses, trees, barns, etc. which continued, without intermission, till they met the First Brigade, with two Field-pieces, near Lexington, ordered out under the command of Lord Percy to support them. Upon the firing of the field-pieces, the people's fire was for a while silenced; but as they still continued to increase greatly in numbers, they fired again, as before, from all places where they could find

cover, upon the whole body, and continued so doing for the space of fifteen miles.

Notwithstanding their numbers, they did not attack openly during the whole day, but kept under cover on all occasions. The Troops were very much fatigued; the greater part of them having been under arms all night, and made a march of upwards of forty miles before they arrived at Charlestown, from whence they were ferried over to Boston.

The Troops had above fifty killed, and many more wounded; reports are various about the loss sustained by the country people; some make it very considerable, others not so much.

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Williamsburgh, May 20, 1775.

Account of an Attack upon a body of the King's Troops, by a number of People of the Province of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, on the 19th of April, transmitted by General Gage to Lord Dunmore, Governour of Virginia.

General Gage having received intelligence that a considerable magazine of military stores was forming at Concord, for an Army which was to assemble there in order to act against His Majesty and his Government, thought proper to order the Grenadiers and light companies of the Regiments at Boston, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Smith, of the Tenth Regiment, to march to the town of Concord, and to destroy all the military stores they might find there. Pursuant to these orders Lieutenant Colonel Smith crossed, about ten o'clock at night, from the Common to the opposite side, and began his march towards Concord, having first given strict charge to all his officers that they should, on no account, suffer any of their men to fire upon any inhabitants, unless they were first attacked by them. The advanced guard, consisting of six companies of Light-Infantry, under Major Pitcairn, had proceeded to within two miles of Lexington, when they received intelligence that five hundred men were drawn together, and seemed determined

to oppose the Troops; at the same time many signal guns were fired from different places, bells were set ringing, and the country everywhere alarmed. As the party under Major Pitcairn advanced towards Lexington, a man presented his piece at the officer in the front, but it flashed in the pan; and when the party reached the end of the village, they discovered about two hundred men under arms, and drawn up on a green, who waited till the Troops came within about one hundred yards of them, and then filed off to their right, and posted themselves behind some stone walls. Upon which the soldiers ran up towards them, and Major Pitcairn called out to them not to fire, but to surround and disarm them; but the others having got over the walls, fired from behind them four or five shot at the Troops, which wounded a man of the Tenth Regiment, and the Major's horse in two places; at the same time several shot were fired from a meeting-house adjoining. Upon this, without any order or regularity, the soldiers began a scattered fire, and killed several of the country people, but they were soon stopped by their officers.

Colonel Smith came up with the rest of the detachment, and they proceeded together to Concord, where they arrived about nine o'clock in the morning, and while he was putting his orders into execution, in destroying the magazine which was found there, he detached a party of six companies of Light-Infantry to secure a bridge at some little distance from the Town, and to destroy some ammunition which they were informed was in several houses thereabouts. This detachment was commanded by Capt. Parsons, of the Tenth Regiment, who, leaving three companies at the bridge, with the remainder went in search of and destroyed a quantity of powder, ball, and cannon-wheels, which he found. In the meantime, a great number of the

country people assembled about this party, and fired upon the three companies posted at the bridge -- killed three men, wounded four officers, one sergeant, and four privates. The Troops returned the fire, and retreated towards their main body at Concord, and were soon followed by Captain Parsons and the other three Companies, who, in passing over the bridge, found three soldiers lying on the ground, one of whom had been scalped, his head much mangled, and his ears cut off, though not quite dead.

Lieutenant Colonel Smith being joined by this party, and having completed the business which had been the object of this design, quitted Concord on his return to Boston; but as soon as he had got without the place, he found himself attacked on all sides from the walls, houses, barns, trees, and every place that afforded cover, and a heavy fire continued upon the Troops until they were met by Lord Percy with his Brigade and two field-pieces, upon the firing of which the country people concealed themselves, and ceased. But as soon as the Troops put themselves in march they were again attacked as before, and without intermission, till the Troops reached Charlestown, from whence they were ferried over to Boston.

The Troops made several halts and returned the fire of the country people, who, however, kept themselves entirely covered and concealed, and did not make the least attempt to show themselves, or venture a close engagement. The Troops lost fifty men killed, and many more are wounded; the loss sustained by the others is not known; some accounts make it very considerable, others little or nothing.

Account of an Attack on the In abitants of Massachusetts by the British Troops, acting under the orders of General Gage, on the 19th of April, 1775.

Worcester, Massachusetts,
May 3, 1775.

Americans, for ever bear in mind the battle of Lexington, where British troops, unmolested and unprovoked, wantonly, and in a most inhuman manner, fired upon and killed a number of our countrymen, then robbed them of their provisions, ransacked, plundered, and burnt their houses! Nor could the tears of defenceless women, some of whom were in the pains of childbirth, the cries of helpless babes, nor the prayers of old age, confined to beds of sickness, appease their thirst for blood, or divert them from their design of murder and robbery!

The particulars of this alarming event will, we are credibly informed, be soon published by authority, as a Committee of the Provincial Congress have been appointed to make special inquiry, and to take the depositions, on oath, of such as are knowing to the matter. In the mean time, to satisfy the expectation of our readers, we have collected from those whose veracity is unquestioned the following account, viz:

A few days before the battle, the Grenadier and Light-Infantry Companies were all drafted from the several Regiments in Boston, and put under the command of an Officer, and it was observed that most of the transports and other boats were put together, and fitted for immediate service. This manoeuvre gave rise to a suspicion that some formidable expedition was intended by the soldiery, but what or where, the inhabitants could not determine; however, the town-watches in Boston, Charlestown, Cambridge, etc. were ordered to look well to the landing places. About ten o'clock on the night of the 18th of April, the Troops in Boston were discovered to be on the move in a very secret manner, and it was found they were embarking in boats

(which they privately brought to the place in the evening) at the bottom of the Common; expresses set off immediately to alarm the country, that they might be on their guard. When the expresses got about a mile beyond Lexington, they were stopped by about fourteen officers on horseback, who came out of Boston in the afternoon of that day, and were seen lurking in by-places in the country till after dark. One of the expresses immediately fled, and was pursued two miles by an officer, who, when he had got up with him, presented a pistol, and told him he was a dead man if he did not stop; but he rode on until he came up to a house, when, stopping of a sudden, his horse threw him off. Having the presence of mind to halloo to the people in the house, "Turn out! turn out! I have got one of them," the officer immediately retreated as fast as he had pursued. The other express, after passing through a strict examination, by some means got clear.

The body of the Troops in the mean time, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Smith, had crossed the river, and landed at Phipp's farm. They immediately, to the number of one thousand, proceeded to Lexington, six miles below Concord, with great silence. A Company of Militia, of about eighty men, mustered near the meeting-house; The Troops came in sight of them just before sunrise; the Militia, upon seeing the Troops, began to disperse; the Troops then sat out upon the run, hallooing and huzzaing, and coming within a few rods of them, the commanding officer accosted the Militia in words to this effect: "Disperse, you damn'd rebels! damn you, disperse!" Upon which the Troops again huzzaed, and immediately one or two officers discharged their pistols, which were instantaneously followed by the firing of four or five of the soldiers, and then there seemed to be a general discharge from the whole body. It is to be noticed they fired upon our people

as they were dispersing, agreeable to their command, and that we did not even return the fire; eight of our men were killed, and nine wounded. The Troops then laughed, and damned the Yankees, and said they could not bear the smell of gunpowder. A little after this the Troops renewed their march to Concord, where, when they arrived, they divided into parties, and went directly to several places where the Province stores were deposited. Each party was supposed to have a tory pilot. One party went into the jail yard, and spiked up and otherwise damaged two cannon belonging to the Province, and broke and set fire to the carriages. They then entered a store and rolled out about a hundred barrels of flour, which they unheaded, and emptied about forty in the river; at the same time others were entering houses and shops, and unheading barrels, chests, etc., the property of private persons; some took possession of the Town House, to which they set fire, but was extinguished by our people without much hurt. Another party of the Troops went and took possession of the North Bridge. About one hundred and fifty Provincials, who mustered upon the alarm, coming towards the bridge, the Troops fired upon them without ceremony, and killed two upon the spot! (Thus did the Troops of Britain's King fire first at two several times upon his loyal American subjects, and put a period to ten lives, before one gun was fired upon them.) Our people then returned the fire, and obliged the Troops to retreat, who were soon joined by their other parties, but finding they were still pursued, the whole body retreated back to Lexington, both Provincials and Troops firing as they went. During this time an express from the Troops was sent to General Gage, who, thereupon, sent out a reinforcement of about fourteen hundred men,under the command of Earl Percy,

Note 1 with two field-pieces. Upon the arrival of this reinforcement at Lexington, just as the retreating party had got there, they made a stand, picked up their dead, and took all the carriages they could find and put their wounded thereon; others of them, to their eternal disgrace be it spoken, were robbing and setting houses on fire, and discharging their cannon at the meeting-house. Whilst they were thus employed, a number of our people attacked a party of twelve of the enemy, (carrying stores and provisions to the Troops) killed one of them, and took possession of their arms, stores, provisions, etc., without any loss on our side. The enemy having halted about an hour at Lexington, found it necessary to make a second retreat, carrying with them many of their dead and wounded. They continued their retreat from Lexing-

Note 2 ton to Charlestown with great precipitation; our people continued the pursuit firing till they got to Charlestown Neck, (which they reached a little after sunset) over which the enemy passed, proceeded up Bunker's Hill, and the next day went into Boston under the protection of the Somerset Man-of-War of sixty-four guns.

Note 1: When the Second Brigade marched out of Boston to reinforce the First, nothing was played by the Fifes and Drums but Yankee Doodle (which had become their favourite tune ever since that notable exploit, which did such Honour to the Troops of Britain's King, of tarring and feathering a poor countryman in Boston, and parading with him through the principal streets, under arms, with their bayonets fixed.) Upon their return to Boston, one asked his brother officer how he liked the tune now? "Damn them, (returned he,) they made us dance it till we were tired." Since which Yankee Doodle sounds less sweet to their ears.

Note 2: An American Soldier, who had received a wound in his breast in pursuing General Gage's Troops, on the 19th of April, supported his body against a tree. A brother Soldier came up to him, and offered him assistance. "Pursue the enemy," said the wounded man. With these words on his lips, he fell back and died.

A gentleman who travelled lately through Connecticut, informs us that he met with an old gentlewoman, who told him that she had fitted out and sent five sons and eleven grandsons to Boston, when she heard of the engagement between the Provincials and Regulars. The gentleman asked her if she did not shed a tear at parting with them? "No, (said she) I never parted with them with more pleasure." But suppose, said the gentleman, they had all been killed. "I had rather (said the noble matron) this had been the case, than that one of them had come back a coward."

A young man, unarmed, who was taken prisoner by the enemy, and made to assist in carrying off their wounded, says that he saw a barber who lives in Boston, thought to be one Warden, with the Troops, and that he heard them say he was one of their pilots. He likewise saw the said barber fire twice upon our people, and heard Earl Percy order the Troops to fire the houses. He also informs that several officers were among the wounded who were carried to Boston, where our informant was dismissed. They took two of our men prisoners in battle, who are now confined in barracks.

Immediately upon the return of the Troops to Boston, all communication to and from the Town was stopped by General Gage. The Provincials, who flew to the assistance of their distressed countrymen, are posted in Cambridge, Charlestown, Roxbury, Watertown, etc., and have placed guards on Roxbury Neck, within gun-shot of the enemy; guards are also placed every where in view of the Town, to observe the motion of the King's Troops. The council of war, and the different Committees of Safety and Supplies set at Cambridge, and the Provincial Congress at Watertown. The Troops in Boston are fortifying the place on all sides, and a Frigate-of-War is stationed up Cambridge River, and a sixty-four gun Ship between Boston and Charlestown.

Deacon Joseph Loring's house and barn, Mrs. Mulliken's house and shop, and Mr. Joshua Bond's house and shop in Lexington, were all consumed. They also set fire to several other houses, but our people extinguished the flames. They pillaged almost every house they passed by, breaking and destroying doors, windows, glasses, etc., and carrying off clothing and other valuable effects. It appeared to be their design to burn and destroy all before them; and nothing but our vigorous pursuit prevented their infernal purposes from being put in execution. But the savage barbarity exercised

upon the bodies of our unfortunate brethren who fell, is almost incredible. Not content with shooting down the unarmed, aged, and infirm, they disregarded the cries of the wounded, killing them without mercy, and mangling their bodies in the most shocking manner.

We have the pleasure to say that, notwithstanding the highest provocations given by the enemy, not one instance of cruelty, that we have heard of, was committed by our Militia; but listening to the merciful dictates of the Christian religion, they "breathed higher sentiments of humanity."

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF MASSACHUSETTS TO THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

(Read in Congress, May 11, 1775.)

In Provincial Congress, Watertown)
May 3, 1775.)

To the Honourable American Continental Congress, to be convened at PHILADELPHIA on the tenth of MAY instant.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The Congress of this Colony, impressed with the deepest concern for their Country, under the present critical and alarming state of its publick affairs, beg leave, with the most respectful submission whilst acting in support of the cause of America, to request the direction and assistance of your respectable Assembly.

The enclosed packet, containing the copies of Depositions which we have despatched for London, also an Address to the Inhabitants of Great Britain, and a Letter to our Colony Agent, Benjamin Franklin, Esq., are humbly submitted to your consideration.

The sanguinary zeal of the Ministerial Army to ruin and destroy the inhabitants of this Colony, in the opinion of this Congress, hath rendered the establishment of an Army indispensably necessary. We have accordingly passed an unanimous resolve for thirteen thousand six hundred men to be forthwith raised by this Colony, and proposals are made by us to the Congress of New-Hampshire, and Governments of Rhode-Island and Connecticut Colonies, for furnishing men in the same proportion.

The sudden exigency of our publick affairs precluded the possibility of waiting for your direction in these important measures, more especially as a considerable reinforcement from Great Britain is daily expected in this Colony, and we are now reduced to the sad alternative of defending ourselves by arms, or submitting to be slaughtered.

With the greatest deference we beg leave to suggest that a powerful Army, on the side of America, hath been considered by this Congress as the only means left to stem the rapid progress of a tyrannical Ministry. Without a force superiour to our enemies, we must reasonably expect to become the victims of their relentless fury; with such a force we may still have hopes of seeing an immediate end put to the inhuman ravages of mercenary Troops in America, and the wicked authors of our miseries brought to condign punishment by the just indignation of our brethren in Great Britain.

We hope that this Colony will at all times be ready to spend and be spent in the cause of America. It is nevertheless a misfortune greatly operating to its disadvantage, that it has a great number of sea-port towns exposed to the approach of the enemy by sea, from many of which the inhabitants have removed, and are now removing their families and effects to avoid destruction from ships of war. These, we apprehend, will begenerallydistressed from want of subsistence, and disabled from contributing aid for supporting the forces of the Colony, but we have the greatest confidence in the wisdom and ability of the Continent to support us, so far as it shall appear necessary for supporting the common cause of the American Colonies.

We also enclose several Resolves (passed this day) for empowering and directing our Receiver-General to borrow the sum of one hundred thousand Pounds, lawful money, and to issue his notes for the same, it being the only measure which we could have recourse to for supporting our forces; and we request your assistance in rendering our measures effectual, by giving our notes a currency through the Continent.

Jos. Warren, President pro tem.

In Provincial Congress, Watertown,)
April 26, 1775.)

To the Inhabitants of GREAT BRITAIN:

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-SUBJECTS: Hostilities are at length commenced in this Colony by the Troops under command of General Gage; and it being of the greatest importance that an early, true, and authentick account of this inhuman proceeding should be known to you, the Congress of this Colony have transmitted the same, and from want of a session of the honourable Continental Congress, think it proper to address you on the alarming occasion.

By the clearest depositions relative to this transaction, it will appear that on the night preceding the nineteenth of April instant, a body of the King's Troops, under command of Colonel Smith, were secretly landed at Cambridge, with an apparent design to take or destroy the military and other stores provided for the defence of this Colony, and deposited at Concord; that some inhabitants of the Colony, on the night aforesaid, whilst travelling peaceably on the road between Morton and Concord, were seized and greatly abused by armed men, who appeared to be officers of General Gage's army; that the town of Lexington by these means was alarmed, and a company of the inhabitants mustered on the occasion; that the Regular Troops, on their way to Concord, marched into the said Town of Lexington, and the said Company, on their approach, began to disperse; that notwithstanding this, the Regulars rushed on with great violence, and first began hostilities by firing on said Lexington Company, whereby they killed eight and wounded several others; that the Regulars continued their fire until those of said Company, who were neither killed nor wounded, had made their escape; that Colonel Smith, with the detachment, then marched to Concord, where a number of Provincials were again fired on by the Troops, two of them killed, and several wounded, before the Provincials fired on them; and that these hostile meas-

ures of the Troops produced an engagement that lasted through the day, in which many of the Provincials, and more of the Regular Troops, were killed and wounded.

To give a particular account of the ravages of the Troops as they retreated from Concord to Charlestown, would be very difficult, if not impracticable; let it suffice to say, that a great number of the houses on the road were plundered and rendered unfit for use; several were burnt; women in childbed were driven by the soldiery naked into the streets; old men, peaceably in their houses, were shot dead; and such scenes exhibited as would disgrace the annals of the most uncivilized Nation.

These, brethren, are marks of ministerial vengeance against this Colony, for refusing, with her sister Colonies, a submission to slavery. But they have not yet detached us from our Royal Sovereign. We profess to be his loyal and dutiful subjects, and so hardly dealt with as we have been, are still ready, with our lives and fortunes, to defend his person, family, crown and dignity. Nevertheless, to the persecution and tyranny of his cruel Ministry, we will not tamely submit; appealing to Heaven for the justice of our cause, we determine to die or be free.

We cannot think that the honour, wisdom, and valour of Britons will suffer them to be longer inactive spectators of measures in which they themselves are so deeply interested; measures pursued in opposition to the solemn protests of many noble Lords, and expressed sense of conspicuous Commoners, whose knowledge and virtue have long characterized them as some of the greatest men in the Nation; measures executing contrary to the interest, Petitions, and Resolves of many large, respectable, and opulent Counties, Cities, and Boroughs, in Great Britain; measures highly incompatible with

justice, but still pursued with a specious pretence of easing the Nation of its burden; measures which, if successful, must end in the ruin and slavery of Britain, as well as the persecuted American Colonies.

We sincerely hope that the great Sovereign of the Universe, who hath so often appeared for the English Nation, will support you in every rational and manly exertion with these Colonies, for saving it from ruin; and that in a constitutional connection with the Mother Country, we shall soon be altogether a free and happy people.

Per order: Jos. Warren, President pro tem.

In Provincial Congress,
Watertown,
April 26, 1775

To the Hon. Benjamin Franklin, esq., London;

Sir: From the entire confidence we repose in your faithfulness and abilities, we consider it the happiness of this Colony that the important trust of agency for it, on this day of unequalled distress, is devolved on your hands; and we doubt not your attachment to the cause of the liberties of mankind will make every possible exertion in our behalf a pleasure to you, although our circumstances will compel us often to interrupt your repose by matters that will surely give you pain. A single instance hereof is the occasion of the present letter; the contents of this packet will be our apology for troubling you with it. From these you will see how and by whom we are at last plunged into the horrours of a most unnatural war. Our enemies, we are told, have despatched to Great Britain a fallacious account of the tragedy they have begun; to prevent the operation of which to the publick injury, we have engaged the vessel that conveys this to you as a packet in the service of this Colony, and we request your assistance in supplying Captain Derby, who commands her, with such necessaries as he shall want, on the credit of your constituents in Massachusetts-Bay. But we most ardently wish that the several papers herewith enclosed may be immediately printed and dispersed through every Town in England, and especially communicated to the Lord mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the City of London, that they may take such order thereon as they may think proper; and we are confident your fidelity will make such improvement of them as shall convince all who are not determined to be in everlasting blindness, that it is the united efforts of both Englands that must save either. But that whatever price our

brethren in the one may be pleased to put on their constitutional liberties, we are authorized to assure you that the inhabitants of the other, with the greatest unanimity, are inflexibly resolved to sell theirs only at the price of their lives. Signed by order of the Provincial Congress:

Jos. WARREN, President pro tem.

(No. 1)

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, Solomon Brown, Jonathan Loring, and Elijah Sanderson, all of lawful age, and of Lexington, in the County of Middlesex, and Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the eighteenth of April instant, being on the road between Concord and Lexington, all of us mounted on horses, we were, about ten of the clock, suddenly surprised by nine persons, whom we took to be regular officers, who rode up to us mounted and armed, each having a pistol in his hand; and after putting pistols to our breasts, and seizing the bridles of our horses, they swore that if we stirred another step we should be all dead men; upon which we surrendered ourselves. They detained us until two o'clock the next morning, in which time they searched and greatly abused us; having first inquired about the magazine at Concord, whether any guards were posted there, and whether the bridges were up; and said four of five regiments of Regulars would be in possession of the stores soon. They then brought us back to Lexington, cut the horses' bridles and girths, turned them loose, and then left us.

Solomon Brown
Jonathan Loring
Elijah Sanderson

Middlesex, April 25, 1775.

Jonathan Loring, Solomon Brown and Elijah Sanderson, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by them subscribed. Before us, William Reed,
Josiah Johnson
Wm. Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, Elijah Sanderson, above named, do further testify and declare, that I was in Lexington Common the morning of the nineteenth of April aforesaid, having been dismissed by the officers above-mentioned, and saw a large body of Regular Troops advancing towards Lexington Company, many of whom were then dispersing. I heard one of the Regulars, whom I took to be an officer, say, "damn them, we will have them;" and immediately the Regulars shouted aloud, run, and fired on the Lexington Company, which did not fire a gun before the Regulars discharged on them. Eight of the Lexington Company were killed while they were dispersing, and at considerable distance from each other, and many wounded; and although a spectator, I narrowly escaped with my life. Elijah Sanderson .

Middlesex,ss., April 25, 1775:

Elijah Sanderson, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed. Before us,

Wm. Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
Wm. Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority, duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Josiah Johnson, and William Stickney, Esquires, are three of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit are to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathanial Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 2)

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

I, Thomas Price Willard, of lawful age, do testify and declare, that being in the house of Daniel Harrington, of said Lexington, on the nineteenth instant, in the morning, about half an hour before sunrise, looked out of the window of said house and saw (as I suppose) about four hundred of Regulars, in one body, coming up the road, and marched toward the north part of the common, back of the meeting-house of said Lexington; and as soon as said Regulars were against the east end of the meeting-house, the commanding officers said something, what I know not; but upon that the Regulars ran till they came within about eight or nine rods of about a hundred of the Militia of Lexington, who were collected on said common, at which time the Militia of Lexington dispersed; then the officers made a huzza, and the private soldiers succeeded them. Directly after this an officer rode before the Regulars to the other side of the body, and hallooed after the Militia of said Lexington, and said, "Lay down your arms, damn you; why don't you lay down your arms?" and that there was not a gun fired till the Militia of Lexington were dispersed. And further saith not.

Thomas Price Willard.

Middlesex, ss., April 23, 1775:

The within named Thomas Price Willard personally appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the written deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,

Wm. Reed,
Jona. Hastings,
Duncan Ingraham,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay)
Charlestown, ss.)

I, Nathanial Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify that Wm. Reed, Jona. Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal this twenty-sixth of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick

(No. 3)

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

Simon Winship, of Lexington, in the County of Middlesex, and Province of Massachusetts-Bay, New England, being of lawful age, testifieth and saith, that on the nineteenth of April instant, about four o'clock in the morning, as he was passing the publick road in said Lexington, peaceably and unarmed, about two miles and a half distant from the meeting-house in said Lexington, he was met by a body of the King's Regular Troops, and being stopped by some officers of said Troops, was commanded to dismount. Upon asking why he must dismount, he was obliged by force to quit his horse, and ordered to march in the midst of the body; and being examined whether he had been warning the Minute-Men, he answered no, but had been out, and was then returning to his father's. Said Winship further testifies that he marched with said Troops until he came within about half a quarter of a mile of said meeting-house, where an officer commanded the Troops to halt, and then to prime and load. This being done, the said Troops marched on till they came within a few rods of Captain Parker's Company, who were partly collected on the place of parade, when said Winship observed an officer at the head of said Troops flourishing his sword, and with a loud voice giving the word fire; which was instantly followed by a discharge of arms from said Regular Troops. And said Winship is positive, and in the most solemn manner declares, that there was no discharge of arms on either side till the word fire was given by said officer as above.

Simon Winship.

Middlesex, ss. April 25, 1775:

Simon Winship, above named, appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Wm. Reed,
Josiah Johnson.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathanial Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that Wm. Reed and Josiah Johnson, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 4).

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, John Parker, of lawful age, and commander of the Militia in Lexington, do testify and declare, that on the nineteenth instant, in the morning, about one of the clock, being informed that there were a number of Regular Officers riding up and down the road, stopping and insulting the people as they passed the road, and also was informed that a number of Regular Troops were on their march from Boston, in order to take the Province Stores at Concord, ordered our Militia to meet on the common in said Lexington, to consult what to do, and concluded not to be discovered, nor meddle or make with said Regular Troops (if they should approach) unless they should insult us; and upon their sudden approach, I immediately ordered our Militia to disperse and not to fire. Immediately said Troops made their appearance, and rushed furiously, fired upon and killed eight of our party, without receiving any provocation therefor from us.

John Parker.

Middlesex, ss., April 25, 1775:

The above named John Parker personally appeared and after being duly cautioned to declare the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by him subscribed. Before us, Wm. Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
Wm. Stickney.
Justices of the
Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify allwhom it doth or may concern, that Wm. Reed, Josiah Johnson, and Wm. Stickney, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such. In withess whereof I have hereunto set my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nath'l Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 5.)

Lexington, April 24, 1775.

I, John Robbins, being of lawful age, do testify and say, that on the nineteenth instant, the Company under the command of Captain John Parker being drawn up (sometime before sunrise) on the green or common, and I being in the front rank, there suddenly appeared a number of the King's Troops, about a thousand, as I thought, at the distance of about sixty or seventy yards from us, huzzaing and on a quick pace towards us, with three officers in their front rank on horseback, and on full gallop towards us; the foremost of which cried, "Throw down your arms, ye villains, ye rebels;" upon which said Company dispersing, the foremost of the three officers ordered their

men, saying, "Fire, by God, fire;" at which moment we received a very heavy and close fire from them; at which instant, being wounded, I fell, and several of our men were shot dead by one volley. Captain Parker's men, I believe, had not then fired a gun. And further the deponent saith not.

John Robbins.

Middlesex, ss., April 25, 1775.

I, John Robbins, within named, appeared, and being duly cautioned to testify the truth, and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition, subscribed by his special order, he being so maimed and wounded that he thought he could neither write his name nor his mark. Before us,

Wm. Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay,)
)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed and Josiah Johnson, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices for the county of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 6.)

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, Benjamin Tidd, of Lexington, and Joseph Abbott, of Lincoln, in the County of Middlesex, and Colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of April instant, about five o'clock, being on Lexington common, and mounted on horses, we saw a body of Regular Troops marching up to the Lexington Company which was then dispersing. Soon after the Regulars fired first a few guns, which we took to be pistols from some of the Regulars who were mounted on horses, and then the said Regulars fired a volley or two before any guns were fired by the Lexington Company. Our horses immediately started and we rode off. And further saith not.

Benjamin Tidd,

Joseph Abbott.

Middlesex, ss., April 25, 1775.

Benjamin Tidd and Joseph Abbott above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by them subscribed.

Wm. Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
Wm. Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by Lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify allwhom it doth or may concern, that Wm. Reed, Josiah Johnson, and William Stickney, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

Charlestown, May 2, 1775.

(No. 7.)

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, Nathaniel Mullekin, Philip Russell, Moses Harrington, Junior, Thomas and Daniel Harrington, William Grimer, William Tidd, Isaac Hastings, Jonas Stone, Jr., James Wyman, Thaddeus Harrington, John Chandler, Joshua Reed, Jr., Joseph Simonds, Phineas Smith, John Chandler, Jr., Reuben Lock, Joel Viles, Nathan Reed, Samuel Tidd, Benjamin Lock, Thomas Winship, Simeon Snow, John Smith, Moses Harrington the third, Joshua Reed, Ebenezer Parker, John Harrington, Enoch Willington, John Hosmer, Isaac Green, Phineas Stearns, Isaac Durant, and Thomas Headly, Jun., all of lawful age, and inhabitants of Lexington, in the County of Middlesex, and Colony of the Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, do testify and declare, that on the nineteenth of April instant, about one or two o'clock in the morning, being informed that several officers of the Regulars had, the evening before, been riding up and down the road, and had detained and insulted the inhabitants passing the same; and also understanding that a body of Regulars were marching from Boston towards Concord, with intent (as it was supposed) to take the stores belonging to the Colony in that Town, we were alarmed; and having met at the place of our Company's parade, were dismissed by our Captain, John Parker, for the present, with orders to be ready to attend at the beat of the drum. We further testify and declare that about five o'clock in the morning, hearing our drum beat, we proceeded towards the parade, and soon found that a large body of Troops were marching towards us. Some of our Company were coming up to the parade, and others had reached it; at which time the Company began to disperse. Whilst our backs were turned on the Troops we were fired on by them, and a number of our men were instantly killed and wounded. Not a gun was fired by any person in our Company on the Regulars

to our knowledge, before they fired on us, and they continued firing until we had all made our escape.

Nathaniel Mullekin,
Philip Russell,
Mos.Harrington, Jr.,
Thomas Harrington,
Daniel Harrington,
William Grimer,
William Tidd,
Isaac Hastings,
Jonas Stone, Jr.,
James Wyman,
Thad. Harrington,
John Chandler.

Joshua Reed, Jr.,
Joseph Simonds,
Phineas Smith,
John Chandler, Jr.,
Reuben Lock,
Joel Viles,
Nathan Reed,
Samuel Tidd,
Benjamin Lock,
Thomas Winship,
Simeon Snow,

John Smith
Mos. Harrington, 3rd
Joshua Reed,
Ebenezer Parker
John Harrington,
Enoch Willington,
John Hosmer,
Isaac Green,
Phineas Stearns,
Isaac Durant,
Thos. Headley, Jr.

Middlesex, ss., April 25. 1775.

Nathaniel Mullekin, Philip Russell, Moses Harrington, Jun., Thomas Harrington, Daniel Harrington, William Grimer, William Tidd, Isaac Hastings, Jonas Stone, Jr., James Wyman, Thaddeus Harrington, John Chandler, Joshua Reed, Jun., Joseph Simonds, Phineas Smith, John Chandler, Jun., Reuben Lock, Joel Viles, Nathan Reed, Samuel Tidd, Benjamin Lock, Thomas Winship, Simeon Snow, John Smith, Moses Harrington, 3rd, Joshua Reed, Ebenezer Parker, John Harrington, Enoch Willington, John Hosmer, Isaac Green, Phineas Stearns, Isaac Durant, and Thomas Headley, Jun., above named, being duly cautioned to testify the hole truth, made solemn oath to the above deposition, as containing nothing but the truth as subscribed by them.

William Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
Wm. Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay)
Charlestown, ss.)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Josiah Johnson and William Stickney, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 8). Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, Nathaniel Parkhurst, Jonas Parker, John Munroe, Jun., John Winship, Solomon Peirce, John Muzzy, Abner Mead, John Bridge, Junior, Ebenezer Bowman, William Munroe 3rd, Micah Hagar, Samuel Sanderson, Samuel Hastings, and James Brown, of Lexington, in the County of Middlesex, and Colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on the morning of the nineteenth of April instant, about one or two o'clock, being informed that a number of Regular Officers had been riding up and down the road, the evening and night preceding, and that some of the inhabitants as they were passing had been insulted by the officers, and stopped by them; and being also informed that the Regular Troops were on their march from Boston, in order as it was said, to take the Colony Stores then deposited at Concord, we met on the parade of our Company in this Town; and after the Company had collected we were ordered by Captain John Parker, who commanded us, to disperse for the present, and to be ready to attend the beat of the drum; and accordingly the Company went into houses near the place of parade. We further testify and say, that about five o'clock in the morning, we attended the beat of our drum, and were formed on the parade. We were faced towards the Regulars, then marching up to us, and some of our Company were coming to the parade with their backs towards the Troops, and others on the parade began to disperse, when the Regulars fired on the Company before a gun was fired by any of our Company on them; they killed eight of our Company, and wounded several, and continued their fire until we had all made our escape.

Nath'l Parkhurst
Jonas Parker,
John Munroe, Jun.,
John Winship,
Solomon Peirce,
John Muzzy,
Abner Mead,
John Bridge, Jun.,
Ebenezer Bowman,
William Munroe, 3rd,
Micah Hagar,
Samuel Sanderson,
Samuel Hastings,
James Brown.

Middlesex, ss., April 29, 1775:

Nathaniel Parkhurst, Jonas Parker, John Munroe, jr., John Winship, Solomon Peirce, John Muzzy, Abner Mead, John Bridge, Jun., Ebenezer Bowman, William Munroe, third, Micah Hagar, Samuel Sanderson, Samuel Hastings and James Brown, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by them subscribed.

William Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
Wm. Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Josiah Johnson, and William Stickney, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 9.)

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, Timothy Smith, of Lexington, in the County of Middlesex, and Colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of April instant, being at Lexington common as a spectator, I saw a large body of Regular troops marching up towards the Lexington Company, then dispersing, and likewise saw the Regular Troops fire on the Lexington Company, before the latter fired a gun. I immediately ran, and a volley was discharged at me, which put me in imminent danger of losing my life. I soon returned to the common, and saw eight of the Lexington men who were killed, and lay bleeding, at a considerable distance from each other, and several were wounded; and further saith not.

Timothy Smith.

Middlesex, ss., April 25, 1775.

Timoth Smith, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition, by him subscribed.

William Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
Wm. Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Corham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Josiah Johnson and William Stickney, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Corham, Notary Publick.

(No. 10.)

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

We, Levi Mead and Levi Harrington, both of Lexington, in the County of Middlesex, and Colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, and of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the morning of the nineteenth of April, being on Lexington common as spectators, we saw a large body of Regular Troops marching up towards the Lexington Company, and some of the Regulars on horses whom we took to be officers, fired a pistol or two on the Lexington Company, which was then dispersing. These were the first guns that were fired, and they were immediately followed by several volleys from the regulars, by which eight men were killed and several wounded.

Levi Mead
Levi Harrington.

Middlesex, ss., April 25, 1775:

Levi Harrington and Levi Mead above named being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by them subscribed. Before us, William Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
William Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Josiah Johnson and William Stickney, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 11.)

Lexington, April 25, 1775.

I, William Draper, of lawful age, and an inhabitant of Colrain, in the County of Hampshire, and Colony of Massachusetts-Bay, in New-England, do testify and declare, that being on the parade of said Lexington, April 19th instant, about half an hour before sunrise the King's Regular Troops appeared at the meeting-house of Lexington. Captain Parker's Company, who were drawn up back of said meeting-house on the parade, turned from said Troops, making their escape by dispersing; in the mean time the Regular Troops made a huzza and ran towards Captain Parker's Company, who were dispersing, and immediately after the huzza was made the commanding officer of said Troops (as I took him) gave the command to the said Troops, "Fire, fire, damn you, fire!" and immediately they fired before any of Captain Parker's Company fired, I then being within three or four rods of said Regular Troops; and further saith not. William Draper.

Middlesex, ss., April 25th, 1775:

William Draper, above named, being duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed. Before us,

William Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
William Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Josiah Johnson, and William Stickney, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit are to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 12.)

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

I, Thomas Fessenden, of lawful age, testify and declare, that being in a pasture near the meeting-house at said Lexington, on Wednesday last, at about half an hour before sunrise, I saw a number of Regular troops pass speedily by said Meeting-house on their way towards a Company of Militia of said Lexington, who were assembled to the number of about one hundred in a Company at the distance of eighteen or twenty rods from said meeting-house, and after they had passed by said meeting-house, I saw three officers on horseback advance to the front of said Regulars, when one of them being within six rods of the said Militia, cried out, "Disperse, you rebels, immediately;" on which he brandished his sword over his head three times; meanwhile the second officer, who was about two rods behind him fired a pistol pointed at said Militia, and the Regulars kept huzzaing till he had finished brandishing his sword, and when he had thus finished brandishing his sword, he pointed it down towards said Militia, and immediately on which the said Regulars fired a volley at the Militia, and then I ran off as fast as I could while they continued firing till I got out of their reach. I further testify that as soon as ever the officer cried, "Disperse, you rebels," the said Company of Militia dispersed every way as fast as they could, and while they were dispersing the Regulars kept firing at them incessantly, and further saith not.

Thomas Fessenden.

Middlesex,ss., April 23, 1775:

The within named Thomas Fessenden appeared, and after due caution to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition by him subscribed. Before us,

William Reed,
Josiah Johnson,
William Stickney,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify to all whom it may or doth concern, that William Reed, Josiah Johnson and William Stickney, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my hand and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five. Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 13.)

I, John Bateman, belonging to the Fifty-Second Regiment, commanded by Colonel Jones, on Wednesday morning, on the nineteenth day of April instant, was in the party marching to Concord, being at Lexington, in the County of Middlesex; being nigh the meeting-house in said Lexington, there was a small party of men gathered together in that place when our Troops marched by, and I testify and declare, that I heard the word of command given to the Troops to fire, and some of said Troops did fire, and I saw one of said small party lay dead on the ground nigh said meeting-house, and I testify that I never heard any of the inhabitants so much as fire one gun on said Troops. John Bateman.

Middlesex, ss., April 23, 1775:

The above named John Bateman voluntarily, being previously cautioned to relate nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the above deposition by him subscribed. Before us, John Cummings,
Duncan Ingraham,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify that John Cummings and Duncan Ingraham, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 14.)

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, John Hoar, John Whitehead, Abraham Garfield, Benjamin Munroe, Isaac Parks, William Mosmer, John Adams, and Gregory Stone, all of Lincoln, in the County of Middlesex, Massachusetts-Bay, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on Wednesday last we were assembled at Concord in the morning of said day, in consequence of information received that a Brigade of Regular Troops were on their march to the said Town of Concord, who had killed six men at the Town of Lexington. About an hour afterward we saw them approaching to the number, as we apprehended, of about twelve hundred, on which we retreated to a mill about eighty rods back, and the said Troops then took possession of the hill where we were first posted. Presently after this we saw the Troops moving towards the North Bridge, about one mile from the said Concord meeting-house; we then immediately went before them and passed the bridge, just before a party of them, to the number of about two hundred, arrived; they there left about one-half of their two hundred at the bridge, and proceeded with the rest towards Colonel Barrett's, about two miles from the said bridge. We then seeing several fires in the Town, thought the

houses in Concord were in danger, and marched towards the said bridge, and the Troops who were stationed there observing our approach, marched back over the bridge, and then took up some of the plank; we then hastened our march towards the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge they fired on our men, first three guns, (one after the other), and then a considerable number more; and then, and not before, (having orders from our commanding officer not to fire till we were fired upon,) we fired upon the Regulars, and they retreated. On their retreat through the Town of Lexington to Charlestown, they ravaged and destroyed private property, and burnt three houses, one barn and one shop.

John Hoar,
John Whitehead,
Ab'm Garfield,
Benjamin Munroe,
Isaac Parks,
William Hosmer,
John Adams,
Gregory Stone.

Middlesex, ss., April 23, 1775:

The within named John Hoar, John Whitehead, Abraham Garfield, Benjamin Munroe, Isaac Parks, William Hosmer, John Adams and Gregory Stone, appeared and made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition.

Before us,

William Reed.
John Cummings,
Jonathan Hastings,
Duncan Ingraham,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify, that William Reed, John Cummings, Jonathan Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham, Esquires, are four of His Majesty's Justices, and that full faith is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five. Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 15.)

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, Nathan Barrett, Captain; Jonathan Parker, Joseph Butler, and Francis Wheeler, Lieutenants; John Barrett, Ensign; John Brown, Silas Walker, Ephraim Melvin, Nathan Buttrick, Stephen Hosmer, Junior, Samuel Barrett, Thomas Jones, Joseph Chandler, Peter Wheeler, Nathan Peirce, and Edward Richardson, all of Concord, in the County of Middlesex, in the Province of the Massachusetts-Bay, of lawful age, testify and declare, that on Wednesday, the nineteenth instant, about an hour after sunrise, we assembled on a hill near the meeting-house in Concord aforesaid, in consequence of an information, that a number of Regular Troops had killed six of our countrymen at Lexington, and were on their march to said Concord; and about an hour afterwards we saw them approaching to the number, as we imagine, of about twelve hundred; on which we retreated to a hill about eighty rods back, and the aforesaid Troops then took possession of the hill where we were first posted. Presently after this we saw them moving towards the North Bridge, about one mile from said meeting-house; we then immediately went before them, and passed the bridge just before a party of them, to the number of about two hundred arrived. They were left about one-half of these two hundred at the bridge, and proceeded with the rest towards Colonel Barrett's, about two miles from the said bridge. We then seeing several fires in the Town, thought our houses were in danger, and immediately marched back towards said bridge, and the Troops who were stationed there observing our approach, marched back over the bridge, and then took up some of the planks. We then hastened our steps towards the bridge, and when we had got near the bridge, they fired on our men, first three guns, (one after the other,) and then a

considerable number more; upon which, and not before, (having orders from our commanding officer not to fire till we were fired upon,) we fired upon the Regulars, and they retreated. At Concord, and on their retreat through Lexington, they plundered many houses, burnt three at Lexington, together with a shop and a barn, and committed damage, more or less, to almost every house from Concord to Charlestown.

Nathan Barrett,
Jonathan Farrer,
Joseph Butler,
Francis Wheeler,
John Barrett,
John Brown,
Silas Walker,
Ephraim Melvin,
Nathan Buttrick,
Stephen Hosmer, Jr.,
Samuel Barrett,
Thomas Jones,
Joseph Chandler,
Peter Wheeler,
Nathan Peirce,
Edward Richardson.

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, Joseph Butler and Ephraim Melvin, do testify and declare that when the Regular Troops fired upon our people at the North Bridge in Concord, as related in the foregoing deposition, they shot one, and we believe two, of our people, before we fired a single gun at them.

Joseph Butler,
Ephraim Melvin.

Middlesex, ss., April 23, 1775:

The within named Nathan Barrett, Jonathan Farrer, Joseph Butler, Francis Wheeler, John Barrett, John Brown, Silas Walker, Ephraim Melvin, Nathan Buttrick, Stephen Hosmer, Junior, Samuel Barrett, Thomas Jones, Joseph Chandler, Peter Wheeler, Nathan Peirce, and Edward Richardson, appeared and made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by them subscribed.

Before us,

Jonathan Hastings,
John Cummings,
Duncan Ingraham,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do hereby certify all whom it may or doth concern, that Jonathan Hastings, John Cummings and Duncan Ingraham, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness thereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 16.)

Concord, April 23, 1775.

I, Timothy Minot, Junior, of Concord, on the nineteenth day of this instant, April, after that I had heard of the Regular Troops firing upon Lexington men, and fearing that hostilities might be committed at Concord, thought it my incumbent duty to secure my family. After I had secured my family, some time after that returning towards my own dwelling and finding that the bridge on the northern part of said Concord was guarded by Regular Troops, being a spectator of what had happened at said bridge, declare that the Regular Troops stationed on said bridge, after they saw the men that were collected on the westerly side of said bridge march towards said bridge, then the Troops returned towards the easterly side of said bridge, and formed themselves, as I thought, for regular fight. After that they fired one gun, then two or three more, before the men that were stationed on the westerly part of said bridge fired upon them. Timothy Minot, Jun.

Middlesex, ss., April 23, 1775:

Doctor Timothy Minot, Junior, personally appeared, and after due caution to testify the truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to

the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed. Before us,

William Reed,
Jonathan Hastings,
John Cummings,
Duncan Ingraham,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Jonathan Hastings, John Cummings, and Duncan Ingraham, are four of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 17.)

Lexington, April 2[illegible], 1775.

I, James Barrett, of Concord, Colonel of a Regiment of Militia in the County of Middlesex, do testify and say, that on Wednesday morning last about daybreak I was informed of the approach of a number of the Regular Troops to the Town of Concord, where were some magazines belonging to this Province. When there was assembled some of the Militia of this and the neighbouring Towns, I ordered them to march to the North Bridge, (so called,) which they had passed and were taking up. I ordered said Militia to march to said bridge and pass the same, but not to fire on the King's Troops unless they were first fired upon. We advanced near said bridge, when the said Troops fired upon our Militia and killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others, which was the first firing of guns in the Town of Concord. My detachment then returned the fire, which killed and

wounded several of the King's Troops. James Barrett.

Middlesex, ss., April 23, 1775.

The above named James Barrett personally appeared and after due caution to testify the whole truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed.

Before us,

William Reed,
Jonathan Hastings,
Duncan Ingraham,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, Jonathan Hastings, and Duncan Ingraham, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five. Nath'l Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 18.)

Lexington, April 23, 1775.

We, Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thaddeus Bancroft, all of Concord, and James Adams, of Lexington, all in the County of Middlesex, all of lawful age, do testify and say, that on Wednesday morning, last, near ten of the clock, we saw near one hundred of the Regular Troops, being in the Town of Concord, at the North Bridge in said Town, (so-called,) and having passed the same, they were taking up said bridge, when about three hundred of our Militia were advancing towards said bridge in order to pass said bridge, when, without saying any thing to us, they discharged a number of guns on us, which killed two men dead on the spot, and wounded several others,

when we returned the fire on them, which killed two of them and wounded several; which was the beginning of hostilities in the Town of Concord.

Bradbury Robinson,
Samuel Spring,
Thaddeus Bancroft,
James Adams.

Middlesex, ss., April 2[illegible], 1775;

The withinnamed Bradbury Robinson, Samuel Spring, Thaddeus Bancroft and James Adams, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition by them subscribed. Before us,

William Reed,
William Stickney,
Jonathan Hastings,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that William Reed, William Stickney, and Jonathan Hastings, Esqrs., are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five. Nath'l Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 19.)

Concord, April 23, 1775.

I, James Marr, of lawful age, testify and say, that in the evening of the eighteenth instant, I received orders from George Hutchinson, Adjutant of the Fourth Regiment of Regular Troops stationed at Boston, to prepare and march, to which order I attended, and marched to Concord, where I was ordered by an officer, with about one hundred men, to guard a certain bridge there. While attending that service, a number of people came along, in order, as I suppose, to cross said bridge, at which time a number of the Regular Troops first fired upon them. James Marr.

Middlesex, ss., April 23, 1775.

The above named James Marr appeared, and after due caution to testify the truth and nothing but the truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him voluntarily subscribed. Before us,

Duncan Ingraham,
Jonas Dix,
Justices of the Peace.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, duly admitted and sworn, do certify that Duncan Ingraham and Jonas Dix, Esquires, are two of His Majesty's Justices for the County of Middlesex, and that full faith and credit is to be given to their transactions as such. In witness whereof I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.

(No. 20.)

Medford, April 25, 1775.

I, Edward Thoroton Gould, of His Majesty's own Regiment of Foot, being of lawful age, do testify and declare, that on the evening of the eighteenth instant, under the orders of General Gage, I embarked with the Light-Infantry and Grenadiers of the line, commanded by Colonel Smith, and landed on the marches of Cambridge, from whence we proceeded to Lexington. On our arrival at that place, we saw a body of Provincial Troops armed, to the number of about sixty or seventy men; on our approach they dispersed, and soon after firing began; but which party fired first, I cannot exactly say, as our Troops rushed on shouting and huzzaing previous to the firing, which was continued by our Troops as long as any of the Provincials were to be seen. From thence we marched to Concord. On a hill near the entrance of the Town, we saw another body of Provincials assembled; the Light-Infantry Companies were ordered up the hill to disperse them; on our approach they retreated towards Concord. The Grenadiers continued on the road under the hill towards the Town. Six companies of Light Infantry were ordered down to take possession of the bridge which the Provincials retreated over; the Company I commanded was one; three companies of the above detachment went forward about two miles. In the mean time the Provincial Troops returned to the number of about three or four hundred. We drew up on the Concord side of the Bridge; the Provincials came down upon us, upon which we engaged, and gave the first fire. This was the first engagement after the one at Lexington; a continual firing from both parties lasted through the whole day. I myself was wounded at the attack of the bridge, and am now treated with the greatest humanity, and taken all possible care of by the Provincials at Medford.

Edwd. Thoroton Gould,
Lieut. King's own Regt.

Province of the Massachusetts-Bay,)
Middlesex County, April 25, 1775.)

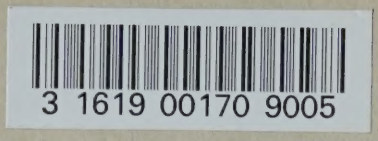
Lieutenant Edward Thoroton Gould, aforenamed, personally made oath to the truth of the foregoing declaration by him subscribed. Before us,

Thad. Mason,
Josiah Johnson,
Simon Tufts,
Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid,
Quorum unus.

Province of Massachusetts-Bay,)
Charlestown, ss.,)

I, Nathaniel Gorham, Notary and Tabellion Publick, by lawful authority duly admitted and sworn, hereby certify to all whom it doth or may concern, that Thaddeus Mason, Josiah Johnson, and Simon Tufts, Esquires, are three of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace, Quorum unus, for the County of Middlesex; and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to their transactions as such, both in Court and out. In witness I have hereunto affixed my name and seal, this twenty-sixth day of April, Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

Nathaniel Gorham, Notary Publick.


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